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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 the lowest and 5 the highest, rate your level of optimism that the CNMI economy will improve this year.

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INSIDE



Climate Secrets

The climate secrets of the Marianas Trench have been probed by scientists.

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3D Nintendo

Nintendo's handheld 3DS will go on sale on March 27 in the U.S. for \$250.

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State Dinner

The Obamas throw a "quintessentially American" state dinner for the president of China.

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Over \$1 million available to construct, restore houses. **PAGE 2**
Over 1K register for Youth Congress election. **PAGE 5**

Made-in-Saipan military uniforms eyed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Businessmen from Guam and the CNMI are looking into the possibility of supplying U.S. military uniforms manufactured on Saipan, whose once mighty garment industry produced clothing for global brands such as Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Gap, Levi's, Abercrombie and Fitch, Polo Ralph Lauren, and Liz Claiborne.

These businessmen and their associates, including Pacific Financial's Ed Camacho and Martin Manglona, met with acting governor Eloy S. Inos yesterday.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the acting governor "did meet with the potential investors who are proposing to set up a manufacturing business here specializing in military garments."

"It's still too soon to project when we can see this development happening, but certainly, the administration is always supportive of new investments that will bring economic benefits to the Common-

wealth," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The businessmen also held a closed-door meeting with House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), and Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) in the speaker's conference room.

Lawmakers previously set the businessmen's presentation in the House chamber, open to anyone interested in listening in.

When the businessmen came in, along with former Northern Marianas College

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Martin Sablan, right, and Pacific Financial's Ed Camacho, center, partly hidden, and another of their associates, left, leave the conference room of House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) shortly after a closed-door meeting with four lawmakers yesterday afternoon, but they declined media interviews. The group, which also met with acting governor Eloy S. Inos, is exploring the possibility of manufacturing U.S. military uniforms on Saipan, which used to produce garments for global brands.

AS OF Q1 OF FISCAL YEAR MVA already has \$2M liability

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

This early, the Marianas Visitors Authority has already incurred over \$2 million in liabilities, based on its financial records for the first quarter of the fiscal year.

MVA managing director Perry Tenorio disclosed yesterday that the agency is supposed to get \$1.5 million from the central government every quarter but it has received only

RELATED NEWS
Aldan-Pierce is new MVA chair. **PAGE 3**



Tenorio

about \$350,000 covering the period from October to December.

Each month, Tenorio said, MVA expects to receive \$533,000 from the general fund to cover its operations and promotional activities. Due to delays in the release of the allotments as a result of dwindling government resources, obligations to international and local vendors have been affected.

See **MVA** on **Page 4**

DPH gives sole-source contract to pursue claims vs Leo Daly

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Health granted in June 2009 a sole-source contract to the law offices of former attorney general Matthew T. Gregory and William Sattersberg on a contingency fee basis to pursue claims against Leo Daly for its alleged defective plan for the government's dialysis center.

Based on documents obtained through an Open Government Act request by former representative Tina Sablan, the contract was not to exceed \$200,000, but the contract had at least two amendments in April 2010 and August 2010.

The CNMI government, through Gregory and Sattersberg, filed in June 2009 a \$10 million suit against Leo Daly, which settled the matter for \$2 million in

See **DPH** on **Page 4**

OPA: \$6.3M in misspent public funds remain unrecovered

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Between Jan. 1 and June 30, 2010, government agencies and the Office of the Attorney General were unable to recover a single cent from \$6.3 million that the Office of the Public Auditor had identified as potentially recoverable money.

This is based on the OPA's 374-page report on CNMI agencies' implementation of audit recommendations as of June 30, 2010.

Potentially recoverable funds include unpaid rentals of land leases, overpayments in professional service contracts,

and improper spending of public funds.

Public auditor Michael Pai, in the report released yesterday, said as of the first half of 2010, OPA referred audit recommendations in seven audit reports to OAG for legal action to recover monies improperly expended.

Based on these seven audit reports, some \$2.6 million is potentially recoverable.

"The [OAG] did not provide OPA an update on these referral cases during OPA's follow-up process, therefore, the status of these referrals remains unchanged," the public auditor said.

OPA also identified potential recover-

ies of some \$3.7 million in eight audit reports addressed to different agencies.

Just like the OAG, these responsible agencies—including the former Marianas Public Lands Authority, Department of Labor, Commonwealth Ports Authority and NMI Retirement Fund—did not give OPA any update on the status of the recovery of these funds.

OPA also tracked 46 audit recommendations during the first six months of 2010.

Of these, only one was closed after OPA concluded that the Public School System implemented its recommendation.

However, 45 audit recommendations were either open or resolved.

An "open" recommendation is one where no action or plan of actions has been made.

Of the 45 open or resolved recommendations, 42 were considered delinquent, or those that have been outstanding for at least 180 days.

Delinquent recommendations increased by 12 or 40 percent, from 30 in 2009 to 42 during the first half of 2010.

These agencies with delinquent recommendations include the OAG, CPA, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Depart-

See **OPA** on **Page 4**

Local

Over \$1 million available to construct or restore houses

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. has over \$1 million in federal funds available for low-income residents who wish to repair their existing houses or build a new one.

Mortgage and Credit Division manager Jesse S. Palacios said the HOME Investment Partnerships Program or the HOME Program still has \$1.1 million to expend for program year 2009 to 2010.

The HOME Program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development provides grants to finance the construction, purchase, or rehabilitation of af-

fordable housing for low-income residents in states and territories.

According to Palacios, NMHC had been allocated over \$5 million to provide assistance to 145 families since the start of the program.

"It's tough to get a loan these days but with this program, the interest rate is very low so it's really a good program for low-income households," Palacios told *Saipan Tribune*.

Palacios said the maximum amount of a new construction loan is \$57,000 and \$40,000 for a rehabilitation loan, adding that the amounts are based on current market prices.

He said that for a new con-

struction loan, the interest rate is between 2 to 5 percent on a 30-year term, with an average monthly payment of \$306.

Meanwhile, a rehabilitation loan will have an interest rate of 0 to 3 percent on a 20-year period, with an average monthly payment of \$221.

Interest rates for both types of loans are determined by the applicant's income.

According to Palacios, loan applicants who are elderly or with disabilities may receive the money as a form of grant and not a loan.

Palacios said applicants are required to fill out forms and submit certain documents as proof of

their income, including tax forms, check stubs, and Social Security statements for the elderly and people with disabilities.

He said the HOME Program gets annual funding and has a two-year deadline to commit the funds.

However, Palacios said they have been behind in the use of the program funds due to the revamping of program policies and procedures in 2009.

"That's why we hope that we get more applicants for this great HUD program so we can assist more people in getting their own houses," he said.

For more information about the program, call 234-6866 or 9447.

Guam looks to CNMI, Hawaii example on shark finning bill

Guam Vice Speaker BJ Cruz said yesterday he is poised to introduce a bill banning the catching of sharks and removal of their fins, patterned after the measures introduced by Hawaii State Sen. Clayton Hee and CNMI Rep. Diego Benavente (R-Saipan).

Hee's bill became the strongest anti-shark finning law in the nation, while Benavente's bill is set to be signed into law.

Cruz, in a phone interview yesterday afternoon, said his bill is stronger than the CNMI's because his measure totally bans catching of sharks for subsistence or non-commercial purposes.

But Cruz said he is open to compromise on his bill.

"I'm hoping to file it by Friday; if not, then Monday," he said, adding that he's now looking for co-sponsors.

Benavente met with Cruz on

Wednesday last week in Guam. Cruz said he also met in December with Hee, who has been drumming up support to close off the region from shark finning.

Once Benavente's bill is signed into law, the CNMI will become the first U.S. insular area to ban shark finning, which is principally responsible for the decline in shark populations worldwide. Between 80 and 100 million sharks are killed each year, which has reduced overall shark populations by an estimated 90 percent.

Benavente said it's his hope that the whole of Micronesia will follow in the CNMI and Guam's steps in protecting sharks and the marine environment.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that the signing of Benavente's bill is tentatively set for 9am on Jan. 27. He said this is pending confirmation with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial when he gets back. *(Haidee V. Eugenio)*

Man allegedly stalks wife, kids at Women's Shelter

Police arrested early this week a man who was allegedly stalking his wife who had taken refuge with their children at the Guma Esperanza Women's Shelter.

Gregorio Samson Quitano Jr., 34, was taken to the Superior Court yesterday afternoon for stalking, criminal trespass, and disturbing the peace. Bail was set at \$2,000 cash.

Police investigation showed that on Thursday, Jan. 13, the victim arrived at the Women's Shelter because she was having a domestic dispute with Quitano.

On Monday afternoon, Quitano arrived at the shelter in a

moped and demanded to see his wife and their children. Quitano allegedly stated he knows that his wife was inside the shelter because he's been watching her from the jungle.

A shelter staff told all clients to go upstairs to their rooms and lock themselves. She then called the police. A police officer responded and arrested Quitano in the area. The suspect was served with the complaint on Wednesday.

The victim said she has a long history of domestic violence with Quitano. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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Aldan-Pierce is new MVA chair



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Members of the Marianas Visitors Authority board award newly elected board chair Marian Aldan-Pierce with a resolution honoring her achievement as the 2009 Lighthouse Awardee.

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority board of directors recognized Marian Aldan-Pierce yesterday for her selection as the 2009 Lighthouse Awardee and elected her to be the new MVA board chair.

The Lighthouse Award recognizes a member of the DFS family worldwide that embodies model citizenship and one who gives tirelessly to the community.

Besides Aldan-Pierce, the new officers of the MVA board are Yoichi Matsumura, vice chairman and treasurer, and Kazusuke Fukuju, board secretary.

For board committees, Matsumura retained the finance committee, while Emma Vilagomez was elected chair of the personnel committee. Board member Edward Maratita will head the policy committee.

During the presentation, Aldan-Pierce thanked her colleagues and described the recognition as an honor. She was the first in the Pacific to be chosen for the Lighthouse Award.

After the meeting, she described funding as one of the biggest challenges that her leadership faces at MVA.

"There's so much to work on. One of the biggest challenges is to get what should be coming to us in terms of budget. People need to understand that our mandate is to go outside of Commonwealth to bring visitors in, but if we do not get the authorized budget...our hands are tied and we're losing a lot of opportunities," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

To improve air seats to the Commonwealth, the government has to support marketing efforts that would entice travelers to the destination, she added.

"The tourism industry is all that we have and we need to nurture it, because without tourism where do you get the money

to pay for services that we need here like hospital and public safety? The only thing that brings in money here is tourism," she said.

She urged business leaders and elected officials to sit down and come up with a plan to help the ailing industry.

For the community, "I think we have to start taking pride in our environment."

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Driver's license scam defendants agree to trial's delay

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

All five defendants in an alleged driver's license scam appeared yesterday in federal court and agreed to delay their trial because of a co-defendant who is due to give birth in the next few months.

This developed as U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Michael Mosman denied Mohammad

Jahangir Miah's renewed motion to release him on bail.

Mosman reset the jury trial of all defendants to June 20, 2011.

The judge, however, stated that Mohammad Miah is free to file a motion to sever his case from his co-defendants: William A. Hocog, Tahira Dolores S. Miah, Hongmei Sun, and Hui Qiang Yan.

G. Anthony Long, counsel for Tahira Dolores Miah, said they need to

delay the trial until June as his client is six months pregnant and is expected to give birth either in April or May.

The jury trial was earlier scheduled for March 7, 2011.

Stephen Woodruff, counsel for Hui Qiang Yan, told the court that he supports the delay because he has a trial in another case.

Except for Mohammad Miah, all defendants are free on \$25,000 unsecured bonds.

In their motion for release, Steven Pixley, court-appointed counsel for Mohammad Miah, said his client has been in custody for 40 days now. Pixley said the judge who handled the previous detention hearing had determined that Mohammad Miah was not a flight risk and that his client has never been convicted of any violent offense.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirk Schuler opposed the request, citing Mohammad Miah's previous convictions and six pending criminal cases in the Super-

rior Court.

He also noted that Mohammad Miah had a kidnapping case, but the Office of the Attorney General had dismissed it on the condition that Miah will leave the CNMI. Miah has not done so, Schuler said, but the case has not been re-opened in the Superior Court.

According to the indictment, Hocog and the four co-defendants conspired to illegally produce and transfer at least three driver's licenses at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to three foreign nationals in exchange for money.

Tan Holdings employees lead cancer awareness walk



CLARISSA V. DAVID

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
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REPORTER

Wearing their green company shirts, Tan Holdings employees led the Cervical Cancer Awareness Walk organized by the Department of Public Health Comprehensive Cancer Control Program on Wednesday.

Over 60 employees joined the third awareness walk for the month as part of the Cervical Cancer Awareness

Month celebration.

Participants walked from Oleai Pavilion to the old Japanese tank across the Quartermaster Road and back.

All participants were provided with healthy refreshments and cancer ribbon pins, while the first 50 to finish the walk each got a free "Let's Fight Cervical Cancer" shirt from Tina Sablan of the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

Program coordinator Joanne Ogo

thanked Tan Holdings for their participation in the efforts to raise awareness about cervical cancer in the community.

"Cervical cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer deaths and we ask that if you have teenage girls age 9 to 18 years, please visit our Immunization Program office and have them receive free HPV vaccine," Ogo told the employees.

Ogo explained that teenagers who

Employees of Tan Holdings smile for the camera before the start of the Cervical Cancer Awareness Walk on Jan. 19.

get the HPV vaccine will lower their risk of getting cervical cancer.

Tan Holdings senior vice president Eli Arago told *Saipan Tribune* that their group of companies has always partici-

pated in various community projects such as the awareness walk.

"Volunteerism is one of the Tan Holdings' values that we want our employees to practice," added Arago.

Retirees association chair on Marianas Agupa

Tomorrow, Jan. 22, 2011, *Marianas Agupa* will feature Juan M. Sablan, president of Commonwealth Retirees Association, from 10am to 10:30am on Magic 100.3 FM.

Topic of discussion will be the solvency of the Retirement Fund, the benefits of its members, and other issues affecting the retirees' pensions.

The Chamorro talk show is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona and features reports by former mayor Joseph S. Inos, Thomas D. Mendiola from Rota, and former Tinian senator David M. Cing.

Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. (PR)

MVA

From Page 1

To date, the agency owes about \$1 million to its offshore office in Japan and over \$700,000 to its office in Korea, Tenorio said during yesterday's board meeting. Local vendors are owed about \$300,000.

Tenorio cited the Happy Children in Paradise campaign as an example of a program affected by this first quarter shortfall.

"One thing of immediate importance is the contract recently signed for Happy Children in Paradise, which requires a large amount of money to be deposited which we can't do for now," he told the board, adding that certain deliverables cannot be met because of this.

Tenorio said that MVA, despite the funding constraints, is fortunate to have a good relationship with its offshore

offices, which have been assured that they will get paid as soon as the money is released by the central government.

"Right now, MVA is operating under baseline mode and we are just operating as needed to ensure our offshore offices are open and accessible to our travel partners and potential visitors while refraining from expending large capital in marketing and promotions," he explained.

He said MVA is in constant communication with the central government to keep the agency abreast of budget updates.

This fiscal year, MVA expects to get about \$6.38 million. Only 13 percent of this amount covers personnel cost; 87 percent is allocated for operations.

If the current trend continues, Tenorio said he will recommend to the board to decide whether to continue with the current course or make some adjustments to reduce the agency's liabilities.

'Only \$3M received in FY'10'

According to board chair Marian Aldan-Pierce, the \$2 million in liabilities in the first quarter of this fiscal year is a result of the huge shortfall recorded by MVA last fiscal year, which amounts to \$3 million.

"Over \$3 million is what we didn't get from our authorized budget [of \$6 million] last fiscal year. As a result, we owe money to travel agents outside of the CNMI because of the programs that we had run overseas—in Japan, Korea, China, Russia," said Aldan-Pierce.

She remains optimistic, though, that the government will provide the remaining balance of last year's budget to pay for these obligations to vendors.

The board instructed MVA management yesterday to continue communicating with the affected vendors so they are kept current about the government's fiscal situation.

DPH

From Page 1

August 2010.

Sablan released last night contract documents from DPH that she obtained through an OGA request for information on the government's legal service contracts. The purpose of the requests for information is to bring to light any abuses of public funds or the CNMI procurement process that may have occurred, and take further action if necessary.

In the DPH contract, in the event that the contract were to be terminated for convenience or if an improper termi-

nation for default occurs, Gregory and Sattersberg would be paid for all previously uncompensated costs, plus either a 33.3 percent contingent fee based on whatever the last offer was from the defendant, or \$250 an hour if no monetary offer had yet been made.

The CNMI won't be liable for payment of any costs in excess of \$200,000.

However, the first \$75,000 of costs will be paid by the CNMI within 30 days of billing. The contract says any costs from \$75,000 to \$200,000 limit will be paid for by Sattersberg. The CNMI will repay these advanced costs at the termination of litigation.

In March 2010, the parties signed an addendum to the services contract. It says within 10 days of the execution of the addendum, \$50,000 shall be made payable to Gregory's trust account.

In August 2010, the parties signed a second addendum to the contract because of a change in entities to be sued.

Gregory and Sattersberg's amended contracts also allowed them to pursue claims against AIC Marianas and its subcontractor over the alleged problematic construction and certification of the hospital's reverse osmosis system.

The contract amendment raised the total cap of costs from \$200,000 to \$250,000.

UNIFORMS

From Page 1

president Agnes McPhetres, they asked that the meeting be only between them and the presiding officers of the Legislature.

Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), businessman Anthony Pellegrino, two others from the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, and the media, among others, were already waiting in the House chamber when the request for a closed-door meeting came in. They were all told that the presentation was cancelled.

Basa, in an interview later, said while there are no specific details shared with lawmakers, they are hoping that this business plan will materialize.

He said Saipan is an "ideal" place for manufacturing U.S. military uniforms given the island's experience with producing clothes for global

brands, it being a U.S. territory and only less than an hour away from Guam, and it having a lower minimum wage than Guam.

"We welcome legitimate investments that will generate employment to our people here. This type of business, it requires special skills, and Saipan already has the facilities in place—former garment factories. If there's something we could help investors with, we'll be happy to do so," said Basa, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Tenorio and Deleon Guerrero separately said having Saipan as a manufacturing hub for U.S. military uniforms will boost the CNMI economy.

Other lawmakers said the visit of the businessmen is still at an "exploratory" stage. They also said that the businessmen also raised concerns about immigration issues in the CNMI.

The last garment factory on Saipan closed in March 2009. Saipan used to have up to 34 garment factories.

OPA

From Page 1

ment of Finance, Department of Public Lands, Department of Public Safety, Northern Marianas College, and the NMI Retirement Fund.

OPA also said that as of June 30, 2010, there were 172 recommendations from 12 recent audit reports issued by private certified public accountant firms.

"The number of delinquent recommendations increased by 40 percent as of June 30, 2010," the public auditor said.

Over 1K register for Youth Congress election

» Nine candidates certified

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

A total of 1,100 voters from seven private and public high schools have registered for the 2011 Youth Congress election.

The Legislative Bureau said that majority of registered voters are from Saipan Southern High School, with 380. Kagman High School follows with 313 students. Marianas High School has 209; Rota High School, 98; Tinian Sr./Jr. High School, 39; Marianas Baptist Academy, 27; and Grace

Christian Academy, 34.

The Youth Congress election was supposed to take place in October 2010 but was postponed following the signing into law of Public Law 17-22, which reduced the number of youth senator seats—from 25 to just 10. This law also postponed the election from Oct. 18 to March 7, 2011, and increased the term of each youth senator from one to two years.

The elected youth senators will assume office on April 17, 2011.

In 2009, there were a total of 2,463 registered Youth Congress voters.

Legislative bureau director

Glenna SP-Reyes said yesterday that the big drop in the registration numbers was a result of the new requirement that limits the participation to freshmen, sophomore and junior high school students, with age ranging from 14 to 18 years

old. The law allows 18-year-old seniors to cast their votes but bars them from running for a seat, Reyes added.

Another big factor in the drop is the law's requirement that voters must be U.S. citizens. Reyes admitted that in the past

12 years of holding the Youth Congress registration and election, the bureau failed to determine this factor.

There are nine candidates for this year's election; they were certified yesterday. They are Mercedes Mesa for Kagman High School; Shelane Dela Cruz Borja for Saipan Southern High School; Thom-

as H. Barcinas for Rota High School; Mariana S. Quitugua for Rota High School; Angela Mamaril for Grace Christian Academy; Jessica Lee for Marianas Baptist Academy; Manatsu Omori for MBA; Audrey Joy Ada for Marianas High School; and Marquina Hofschneider for Tinian Jr./Sr. High School.

Man gets 91 days for 'ice' possession last year

The Superior Court has imposed a 91-day prison term on a man who was arrested twice last year for possession of methamphetamine or "ice."

Francisco R. Demapan was sentenced to two years in prison, all suspended except for 91 days, for two counts of possession of a controlled substance.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman gave the 30-year-old

Demapan credit for the 91 days he had already served in jail. This means Demapan immediately goes free.

He was placed, however, on supervised probation and required to perform 100 hours of community service, and pay a \$300 fine and court assessment fee.

Demapan was also required to report to the Community

Guidance Center for an initial evaluation for counseling or treatment for drug addiction.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Demapan with possession of a controlled substance and contempt. In the other case, the OAG charged him with possession of a controlled substance.

Demapan pleaded guilty on Thursday to possession of a

controlled substance in each case as part of a plea bargain. He was represented by counsel Joaquin DLG. Torres.

Police said they arrested Demapan last July 16 after they found him in possession of 2.10 gross grams of "ice."

On Oct. 18, a law enforcer spotted Demapan walking late at night—a violation of his bail conditions—and found him in possession of "ice." (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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Life in Motion

Inos signs local law giving \$48,000 to Rota patients, scholars

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos signed into local law yesterday a local measure appropriating \$48,000 to Rota patients, scholars, agriculture, employees' retroactive pay, and other local programs.

Rep. Teresita Santos' (Ind-Rota) House Local Bill 17-31, Substitute 1, is now Rota Local Law 17-10, over a week after the Rota Legislative Delegation passed it on Jan. 12.

"I again extend my sincerest gratitude to acting governor Inos for signing this significant bill. It will enable the office of the mayor to disburse the funds for our dialysis and terminally ill patients who have been waiting for their subsistence allowance," Santos said.

The \$48,000 comes from revenues collected from the annual license fees of poker and pachinko slot machines.

Santos said \$14,250 will go toward Rota patients currently on dialysis or are terminally ill.

Of this amount, \$9,000 will be for the monthly subsistence allowance of 15 patients, who will each receive \$300 for November and December 2010.

Another \$2,100 will go to seven patients who will receive \$300 each for January 2011.

The remaining \$3,150 will be divided among seven other patients who are not living at the Rota Guest House or other government housing, for January 2011.

Of the total amount of \$48,000 in appropriations, \$5,000 will go toward agricultural programs on Rota and \$3,000 will be for

the Agricultural Fair and Sweet Potato Festival.

Under the new local law, \$9,250 will go toward the Rota Municipal Scholarship Foundation, which included \$1,250 from Rota Local Law 17-2; provided that not more than 10 percent will be used for administrative costs such as meetings.

Another \$1,250 will be used to pay affected government employees under Public Law 7-31, which gives retroactive payments to certain employees.

The remaining \$15,250 will be used for the operations and activities of the Rota Mayor's Office.

Japanese fashion models to headline GIG's 'Nuts Night'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

club music all night long.

Admission is \$10 per person, with all-you-can-drink Budweiser products from 9pm to 11pm.

The concept of "Nuts Night" is based on the successful monthly club event organized for the readers of the Japanese magazine called *Happie nuts*.

With a 200,000 readership, *Happie nuts* is a famous fashion magazine intended for girls in their late teens to early 20s who frequent the streets of Shibuya, Tokyo's young fashion capital.

Takayuki Niizeki, vice president of Niizeki International Saipan Co., Ltd., which owns GIG, said they invited two popular models of the magazine to strut their stuff on the island.

Sayoko Ozaki and Akane Satomi, who arrived with their 15-member crew last night, will join two local models for Saturday's fashion show and club party.

Niizeki said they were inspired to bring this club event to the island since Japanese tourists consist mostly of young

travelers. "Based on the statistics of [Marianas Visitors Authority], majority of Japanese tourists are young tourists. They are either on student trips or young professionals," he said.

"By doing this event, we hope to have more collaboration between Japan and Saipan by bringing in more opportunities for the island just like this event," he added.

According to Niizeki, *Happie nuts* will also feature Saipan in its February issue, with one page to be allotted for the Nuts Night while nine pages are designated for their fashion shoot on island.

He added that the two models brought a limited number of exciting giveaways for the audience.

Niizeki urged the public to visit GIG on Saturday night and enjoy the fashion show and club party. "I'm sure they will enjoy the event," he said.

For more information, call 234-5050.

USCIS to host immigration outreach sessions

» Outreach to cover E-2 investor visa and grant of status

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will host public sessions to discuss the E-2 Investor Visa and Grant of Status at the National Park Service's American Memorial Park indoor auditorium in Garapan.

The two-hour sessions will begin at 5pm on Jan. 25 and 26, Tuesday and Wednesday. Seating is available for 110 people on a first-come, first-served basis.

Note that these public sessions are exclusively designed to discuss the CNMI-only E-2 Nonimmigrant Investor, for which the final rule was published in December 2010, and Grant of Status.

There will be no opportunity to discuss the Transitional Worker rule during these forums. Public meetings will be set up in the future when the final rule for the CNMI-Only Nonimmigrant Transitional Worker is finalized.

USCIS, an agency within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, handles immigration benefits. More information can be found at www.uscis.gov/cnmi. (USCIS)

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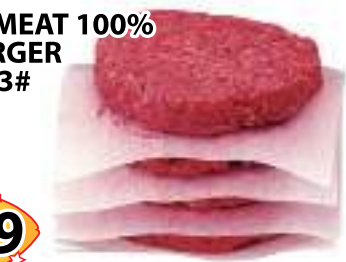
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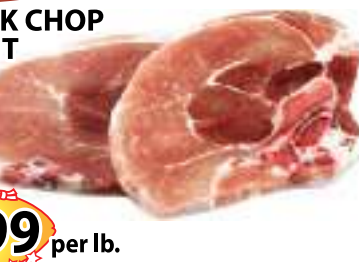
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Adult Basic Education spring 2011 calendar

The Northern Marianas College's Adult Basic Education program, under the Division of Community Programs and Services, has announced the following important dates for the spring 2011 semester:

■ **Registration for returning students:** Jan. 24-25, Monday

and Tuesday, 10am-6pm, ABE Building

■ **Registration for new students:** Jan. 26-27, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am-6pm, ABE Building

■ **Late registration:** Jan. 28, Friday; Feb. 1-2, Tuesday and Wednesday; 9am-4pm, ABE

Building

■ **Add/drop for students:** Feb. 4, Friday; Feb. 7-10, Monday-Thursday; 8am-5pm, ABE Building

■ **First day of instruction:**

-Thursday classes – Feb. 3

-MWF classes – Feb. 4

-Saturday classes – Feb. 5

-Sunday classes – Feb. 6

■ **Last day of instruction:** April 30, 2011

For more information, contact the Adult Basic Education office at 234-5498 Ext. 1721, 1723, or 1724. You can also visit their office in Building G at the college's As Terlaje campus or log on to www.nmnet.edu. (NMC)

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ISLAND APPAREL

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jan. 21, 1999

CPA board OKs budget supplement

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board has approved a supplemental budget amounting to \$66,264 to carry out capital improvement projects on Saipan, Rota and Tinian. Of this, some \$42,264 will go to the airport while \$24,000 will go to the seaport. This include additional funding for the expansion of West Tinian Airport amounting to \$33,822. The ports authority had earlier approved a total of \$11.10 million budget for fiscal year 1999. This include an appropriation of some \$9.73 million for the airport operation, an 11 percent decline over the previous year. At least 58 percent of the airport budget goes to salaries and wages of personnel.

Office sought to manage parks

A bill pending at the House of Representatives will seek the creation of a government office to oversee public parks on the island and impose fees on the use of the sites for repair and maintenance of facilities. The proposed office will still be part of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources which, under the existing law, is the lead agency supervising various parks in the CNMI. The Division of Parks and Recreation will be provided authority to undertake landscaping, beautification of these parks, while assess fees to generate its own revenues, according to the measure proposed by Rep. Oscar Babauta.

Jan. 21, 2000

MVA seeks \$8 million budget for FY 2001

The Marianas Visitors Authority is seeking an \$8 million budget for fiscal year 2001, a \$2.2. million increase from this year's budget. MVA board chair David M. Sablan has expressed hope that the proposed budget will be approved by the Legislature without cuts so that they can effectively market the CNMI as an ideal destination in the Pacific. He warned that continuous budget cuts may affect current efforts to revive the ailing tourism economy. MVA has been planning to tap its alternative markets—Hong Kong and Taiwan but the money for promotion is not even enough to pursue Japan and Korea, its main source of visitors.

Underground businesses under siege

In increased efforts to replenish depleting coffers and safeguard public safety, the government has stepped up moves against businesses in the CNMI that are operating without proper permit from the Commerce Department. The move came after Commonwealth Development Authority chair John S. Tenorio disclosed that unlicensed businesses in the Northern Marianas are causing the government millions of dollars in uncollected taxes. Tenorio pointed out that the government is likely to see more revenues filling up the public coffers had there been strict monitoring and documentation of all business transactions in the islands.

Jan. 21, 2002

'Labor system is key vs takeover'

The best way to stave off any attempts at a federal takeover in labor and immigration in the CNMI is to put in place a system that is transparent and efficient, which will inherently be fairer for both the workers the employers. Gov. Juan N. Babauta stressed this point before the audience at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's Installation Dinner Saturday night, adding that, by improving the labor and immigration system, Washington will be convinced of the CNMI's capacity to handle such issues by itself. "Through this, we make life easier for the business community, we make life better for nonresident workers, and we reassure the people in Washington who want to take over that there is no need to take over," Babauta said.

USDA lifts meat ban vs Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Japan

The US Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service disclosed that Netherlands, Northern Ireland and Japan were added to the list of countries considered to be free of rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease. USDA officials released a statement recently explaining that changes in disease status relieves certain prohibitions and restrictions on the importation of ruminants and swine, fresh meat and other products into the United States and territories, including Guam and the Northern Marianas. However, officials said, these countries will continue to be subject to certain import restrictions on meat and animal products because of their proximity to or trading relationships with rinderpest or FMD affected regions. In addition, all three countries will continue to be under restrictions for bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

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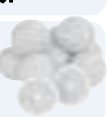
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Opinion

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Saipan Tribune

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

Tunisia as a tipping point

Is the Arab world ready for democracy? As the freedom-yearning people of Tunisia cast off a dictator and fight for representative government, it's a question being asked in capitals worldwide.

Former President George W. Bush wouldn't have hesitated to say yes. He laid out his "freedom agenda" in a 2003 speech marking the 20th anniversary of the National Endowment for Democracy. "Sixty years of Western nations excusing and accommodating the lack of freedom in the Middle East did nothing to make us safe, because in the long run, stability cannot be purchased at the expense of liberty," Bush said. "As long as the Middle East remains a place where freedom does not flourish, it will remain a place of stagnation, resentment and violence ready for export."

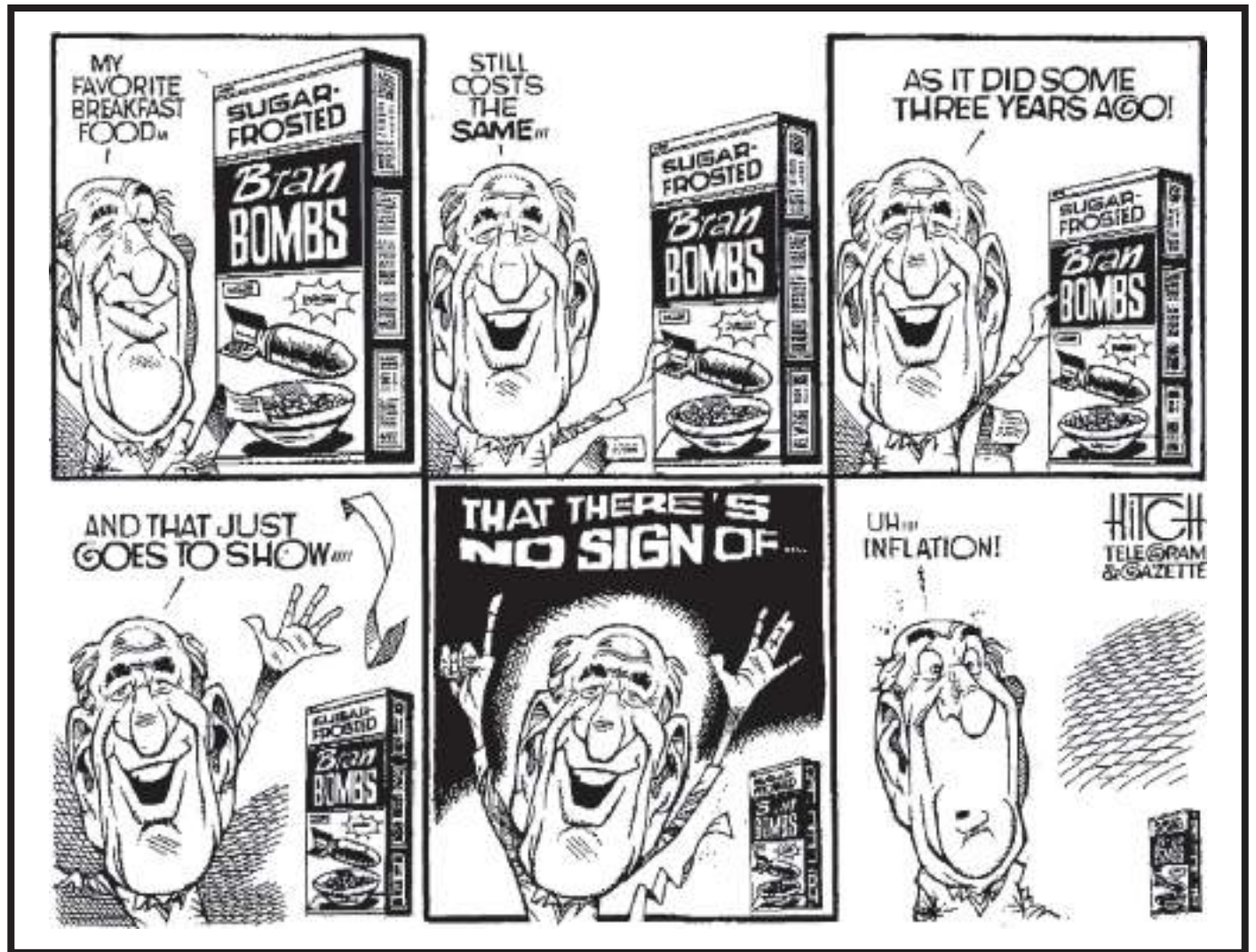
Bush considered the nurturing of democracy to be "the calling of our country." Eight years on, however, the results aren't as straightforward as he might have hoped. U.S. efforts to expand freedom at gunpoint have stalled in Afghanistan and produced an unstable regime in Iraq that is in constant danger of collapsing. Lebanon's secular government recently fell in a power struggle that appears to favor Hezbollah, a militant Islamist movement backed by Iran. Free elections in the Palestinian territories boosted the power of Hamas.

Tunisia, whose corrupt and repressive regime was tolerated for decades by the U.S. in precisely the kind of devil's bargain described by Bush, raises hopes for a more positive outcome. The "jasmine revolution" was led not by clerics but by well-educated young people suffering widespread unemployment. The country has an unusually progressive attitude toward women and is no hotbed of Islamic extremism.

But the revolution could implode if police clashes with protesters continue. The North African wing of al-Qaida has expressed support for regime change and is urging Tunisians to send their children to its camps for military training. The country is packed with angry, jobless young men who aren't likely to find employment anytime soon, raising worries of increased militancy. And there is significant danger that a new strongman could emerge, offering stability in exchange for freedom. The Obama administration can help fend this off by granting all possible assistance for the staging of free and fair elections and by offering warm diplomatic and trade relations with the newly elected government.

The philosophical seeds of modern democracy were planted during the 18th century Enlightenment, a movement that largely bypassed the Arab world. Given the extraordinary repression and human rights abuses in most Arab countries, some have questioned whether democratic movements there can succeed. But we'd like nothing better than for Tunisia to prove Bush right.

© 2011, Los Angeles Times



Full disclosure

On Tinian, I've often been told that if I can't stand the heat in the kitchen, I should get out. It's not the heat I can't stand, it's the rats and the cockroaches running around that even No Ka Oi can't terminate.

I'm sure that many people have found great entertainment as well as sadness in the over 100 comments relating to the Open Government Act request by Mr. Atalig. With the cost of living and unemployment being at an all-time high and with earned income struggling to meet basic household needs, the anger and the sense of hopelessness is not surprising as people are desperately looking for some kind of relief.

I was deputy chief of staff at the Mayor's Office up until September and privy to a lot of information then. I'm not writing in defense of the mayor as he has to be accountable for his political decisions but would like to clarify some misrepresentation of facts because the people of Tinian deserve the truth with regards to contracts executed since the beginning of this administration.

Here they are:

- There has never been a professional contract for Don Farrell. He does get paid at a rate of \$200 a day for historical/military tours. Mr. Farrell was also paid \$2,400 to develop a draft 5-year economic master plan for Tinian. Besides being the mayor's brother-in-law, Farrell is a CNMI historian whose books have been published and used as text for PSS and NMC.

- There has never been a maintenance contract for Peter Dela Cruz, contrary to popular beliefs.

- There was a contract for Roy Reyes, who is an engineer, in the amount of \$5,000 a month, for a total of six months. To date, he has been paid a total of \$15,000. His job was to assess structural defects and questionable design flaws of the Natibu Park and to assist with current and future CIP projects. He was also tasked to design A&Es for future municipality projects. His contract was suspended around the same time (May 2010) that the mayor asked TCGCC and other municipal employees to volunteer a 16 hour pay-cut.

- There was a contract for attorney Ray Quichocho in the amount of \$7,000 a month that began in February and was suspended in May 2010. His first billing for this administration was over \$13,000 for his representation in the employee conversion case that he was disqualified from. He has been paid for that. He also submitted an invoice for over \$9,000 (which includes the monthly \$7,000) for his travel expenses to attend the APILG in the Philippines in February. This invoice is being disputed as receipts included hotel accommodations for his brother, Ike Quichocho, bar expenses and airline ticket for travel dated November 2009 when the trip was in February 2010. For the month of March, the people of Tinian are being charged \$7,000 for less than four hours of work. For the month of April, the people of Tinian are being charged \$7,000 for 11 hours of work and for the month of May, the people of Tinian are being

By **KIMBERLYN KING-HINDS**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Kimberlyn King-Hinds is a former chairperson of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents.



charged \$7,000 for 0 hours of work. To date he has not been paid as his billable hours are being disputed.

- Jose P. Cruz has been paid a professional services contract in the amount of \$1,000. He was contracted to assist the departments of Labor and Commerce to survey the employment needs of the private businesses.

- Steve Borja Jr. has been paid a professional services contract in the amount of \$1,500. He was contracted to help organize the "re-establishment of the Tinian's Farmers and Fishermen's Market, to coordinate with the Tinian Cattlemen Association to revitalize the Tinian agriculture industry, to coordinate with potential markets to procure Tinian fish, produce and meat; and to work with the Legislature to change current laws to reduce water rates for farmers and ranchers.

I appreciate Mr. Atalig's request because people should know how municipality funds are being used. The Open Government Act is a great tool to bring about accountability when the intentions are for justice and fairness for all people. What I don't appreciate is my community being diabolically pitted against each other in such an embarrassing public manner and being played like banjos in a hoedown in this phony show of concern.

Just so that we are all clear, I supported this mayor and will continue to support him. He has four more years to either improve our lives or further lead us down to an abyss. I'm not going to sit back and wait for him to fail because if he falls down, we all fall down. As Edmund Burke once said, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Like you, I'm angry. Our political system and style of politics over the years has been set up to be nothing more than a joyride for those who are victorious in an election. We've all heard it. "It's my turn" or "Never mind, it's their turn." It's like we're playing a game of Nintendo Tinian. The most you ever see citizens get involved in politics or work so hard is during the election when they are picking up tents or screaming "Biba." This is all with the expectation that if I yell "Biba" loud enough or if I donate my cow, my son is going to get a job and it doesn't matter if he has an IQ of a kindergartener. "It's okay, because he can bush-cut nai."

A lot of you are angry for many reasons. You were promised jobs.

See FULL on Page 13

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Saving money with Skype

While gas and electricity prices are putting the zap on our wallets, everyone is on a mad hunt to chop their other expenses. Here's one way: Skype. It's a program that turns your computer into a virtual telephone. That's just the call for me, since I'm determined to hang up on my monthly three-digit phone bills. Anyone on Saipan who has overseas friends and family surely shares my sentiments.

The Skype client (the software that goes on your computer) itself is free and easy to use. As for the actual use of Skype to make phone calls, costs vary from free to, well, not free, but I'll get into that in a minute.

Incidentally, I'm not a Skype authority; I'm just a casual user. Which is great because Skype is very intuitive for basic use, no study or learning is necessary.

First things first: Install the client from Skype.com. The "Get Skype" field at the top of the screen provides a menu of download links. The very first option listed is Windows. Mac and Linux flavors are also available, along with a cyber-cornucopia of other offerings that I don't even understand.

After it's installed and it's setting itself up, the installation screen prompts for the usual sort of information, such as name, country, and whatever. Many of the fields are optional (birthday, for example), so I just left them blank. The user also chooses their Skype name in much the same way people chose their e-mail names. Skype offers suggestions for user names if the desired name has already been claimed.

Skype can call other computers that also have Skype installed, in

which case the entire call is free. Skype can also call normal telephones from a computer, in which case there are charges which vary by the country, and which are often quite cheap.

Since Skype is using the Internet for the call, the quality of the call depends on the quality of the Internet connections. I've usually had great luck with this. But it varies a lot. Furthermore, what is an acceptable quality for gossiping with the homies might not be acceptable for an important business call.

If you don't know someone's Skype name you can look it up by using a search field. On my Windows client for Skype the search field is toward the upper left side of the screen. After putting in a name, a button appears that says "find this person." So, click to find.

As for calling normal telephones instead of other computers, well, let's start here: You'll have to cough up some money. Skype has a number of payment plans, but I haven't looked into all of them. Some involve unlimited monthly calling to certain countries, or to certain groups of countries. As for me, I merely pay by the minute by putting some money on account (I used PayPal to submit the payment). A newbie can put a few bucks on account and just give it a try, so there's no need to make any big financial commitments here.

These are the prices I see to make calls: U.S. telephones, 2.3 cents a minute. Guam, 2.3 cents. Northern Mariana Islands, 4.5 cents. Japan, 2.6 cents. South Korea, 2.3 cents. China, 2.3 cents. Taiwan, 2.3 cents to a landline, but 10.1 cents to a mobile. Philippines, 19.8 cents to landlines, 24.9 cents to a mobile.

European users pay higher rates, since they are assessed a 15 percent Value Added Tax.

By **ED STEPHENS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at TropicalEd.com. Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday.



Skype helpfully displays the cost per minute when a call is placed to a given number, and I can see my account balance at a glance.

I've just scratched the surface here. For example, Skype also offers voice mail, call forwarding, video conferencing, text messaging, and so on.

Skype can also issue users a phone number that it calls an "Online Number." Although various international options exist, I don't think CNMI numbers (670 area code) are offered. Anyway, the online number allows people to use a phone to call the Skype user, so it's just like placing a normal phone call. Your grandmother in Toledo doesn't know she's calling a computer when she rings you on Dec. 26 to ask if you received the five bucks she sent you for Christmas.

Hey, that five bucks could get your car all the way from As Lito to Marpi. Well, maybe. But take heart: While the cost of filling your tank is painfully high, at least the cost of calling your pals to complain about it is downright low, maybe even free.

Look before you leap: Toxic rumors and fake lawyers

(a) *The status of an alien who was inspected and admitted or paroled into the United States...may be adjusted by the Attorney General, in his discretion and under such regulations as he may prescribe, to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if*

(1) *the alien makes an application for such adjustment,*

(2) *the alien is eligible to receive an immigrant visa and is admissible to the United States for permanent residence, and*

(3) *an immigrant visa is immediately available to him at the time his application is filed.*

—Immigration and Nationality Act, Section 245(a)

A little learning is a dangerous thing...

—Alexander Pope, An Essay on Criticism (1709)

A new toxic rumor, involving parole-in-place

There's a guy, a Philippine citizen, who consults us every now and then; for purposes of this column we'll call him Joe which is not, of course, his real name. Joe's intelligent, and he manages a fairly large workforce. We think he's qualified for an employment-based visa, most likely a green card. Unfortunately, that's complicated and expensive, and he's looking for a short cut—and he's also one of those people who know just enough to get into trouble. This time he fell for a really toxic rumor, along with at least 15 other people he knows about. We don't know how many more are out there, but we'd like to stop the rumor now.

The rumor is that if you have been granted parole-in-place by USCIS, you can now get a green card by applying for adjustment of status. FALSE. The rumor is based on a misreading of Section 245(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) quoted above. Specifically, it ignores 245(a)(2), which requires not only that the alien be "inspected or admitted or paroled into the United States," but also that "the alien is eligible to receive an immigrant visa [green card]."

The rumor's origin goes back to the umbrella permits issued by the CNMI government before the federalization of immigration on Nov. 28, 2009. There were a number of people who had valid CNMI entry permits but who, for one reason or another, could not or would not get umbrella permits. In Joe's case, when he read the language on the umbrella permit form, he concluded (wrongly) that when his employment ended he, and not his employer, would have to pay for his repatriation. So he decided to go without, and wait until USCIS made CW-1 visas available.

That was a bad call, first because CW-1 is still not yet available, and second because CW-1 is not available for people like Joe, who qualify for one or more U.S. visas, either immigrant or nonimmigrant. And third, because his entry permit was due to expire last spring, and without an umbrella permit, CNMI Labor could not issue the new foreign national identification card that has replaced the old CNMI entry permits.

But that worked out okay for Joe. USCIS came to the rescue by announcing that it would grant parole-in-place (also known as humanitarian parole) to people like Joe, who are employed

and whose "work permits" would soon expire but who do not have umbrella permits. The USCIS fact sheet, "USCIS Advises Foreign Nationals Whose Work Permits Expire Before CNMI-Only Visa Categories are Available," dated April 21, 2010, is available at <http://tinyurl.com/2c6blf9>. So Joe was granted parole-in-place.

So far, so good. But here's where the rumor comes in, and the reality is that a little knowledge is indeed dangerous. Joe knew just enough to get into trouble, and get sucker punched by someone's misreading of the law.

Joe and his friends all had parole-in-place. One of them "learned" that Section 245(a) INA says that an alien who has been paroled into the U.S. can become a lawful permanent resident by applying to adjust status. The rumor ignores the part of the statute that requires that the alien must be eligible to receive a green card.

So Joe, and his buddies, filed Form I-485, Application for Adjustment of Status with USCIS citing, as the basis for the applications, "P.L. 110-229," which is the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, aka "the federalization law."

Surprisingly, USCIS did not reject the applications out of hand. Instead, USCIS accepted the filing fees—a total of \$1,010 each for the I-485 and for the biometrics, all done before the fee increase in late November—issued receipts and set up biometrics appointments at the Saipan Application Support Center on Beach Road. And then USCIS issued Requests for Further Evidence, or RFEs, asking, among other things, that each applicant produce either an I-130 Petition for Alien Relative, or an I-360 (the form used for self-petitions by several classes of applicants) or a Form I-140 (Application for Immigrant Employee). Joe and others responded by quoting Section 245(a), cited in the very beginning of this article.

Don't forget that in order to be eligible for a green card you must have a basis: either a qualified relative or a qualified employment. Without a legal basis that qualifies you to apply, there will be no green card.

A couple of weeks ago the USCIS denials started coming in. At over a thousand bucks a pop, that's an expensive rumor. Over \$15,000 for Joe and his friends, and we're willing to bet that others got taken in by this one that we just don't know about. Any immigration attorney would have told Joe and his fellow applicants to save their money, and would have charged a lot less for the advice. Remember the ancient common wisdom: if it looks too good to be true, it is too good to be true. (That advice has been around for a long time: the Oxford English Dictionary shows that the first written use of "too good to be true" was in 1581.)

Fake lawyer on the loose

Speaking of things that are too good to be true: In September, we wrote a column about choosing an immigration attorney. In that article, we recommended checking whether the attorney is in good standing, whether the attorney has immigration experience, and whether the attorney has been disciplined by any bar association or by the government's immigration agencies.

We should have added: ask for proof that the attorney is really an attorney. Someone recently came to us for help after receiving

Immigration Forum

By **MAYA KARA and
BRUCE MAILMAN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



denial of a green card application for failing to respond to an RFE. It appeared clear that the client was entitled to a green card, and that the RFE would have been easily satisfied. We asked to see the application forms and supporting documents, which were incompetently completed. As the story unfolded, the client had hired someone who claimed to be an attorney, who charged "legal fees" for his services. The client's English skills are minimal, and she required a translator. The translator volunteered that she herself is aware of nearly a dozen other members of the same ethnic community who have been "helped" by this same "attorney."

There were several things that should have been tip-offs that this "attorney" was not what he seemed: no office of his own, no business card and only a cell phone number, just for starters. His name is not in the phone book under "attorneys," nor is it on the list maintained by the CNMI Bar Association at <http://www.cnmibar.net/>. (You can also call the Bar Association and ask if someone is a member in good standing, at 235-4529.)

It is not illegal for a non-attorney to competently provide immigration consulting services, but it is unlawful to falsely claim to be an attorney, or to give legal advice or provide legal services while pretending to be authorized to do so. The unauthorized practice of law has traditionally been handled by the courts, acting on recommendations from the disciplinary committees or equivalent sections of state bar associations. In the CNMI, since 2006, the unauthorized practice of law is also a crime, with penalties including imprisonment or a fine, or both. The code section is 6 CMC § 3115, Public Law 15-18. Check out the public law version on the Law Revision Commission website, at http://www.cnmilaw.org/pdf/public_laws/15/pl15-18.pdf.

If you have received advice or services from someone who pretended to be an attorney, you should contact the CNMI Bar Association's Disciplinary Committee (chairman is former judge Timothy Bellas) or the Attorney General's Office.






Remember: Don't listen to immigration rumors without getting legal advice, and check out anyone who offers advice. Look before you leap.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lex-marianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87 ▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼77
Chuuk	Sunny	▲85 ▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86 ▼75
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲85 ▼76

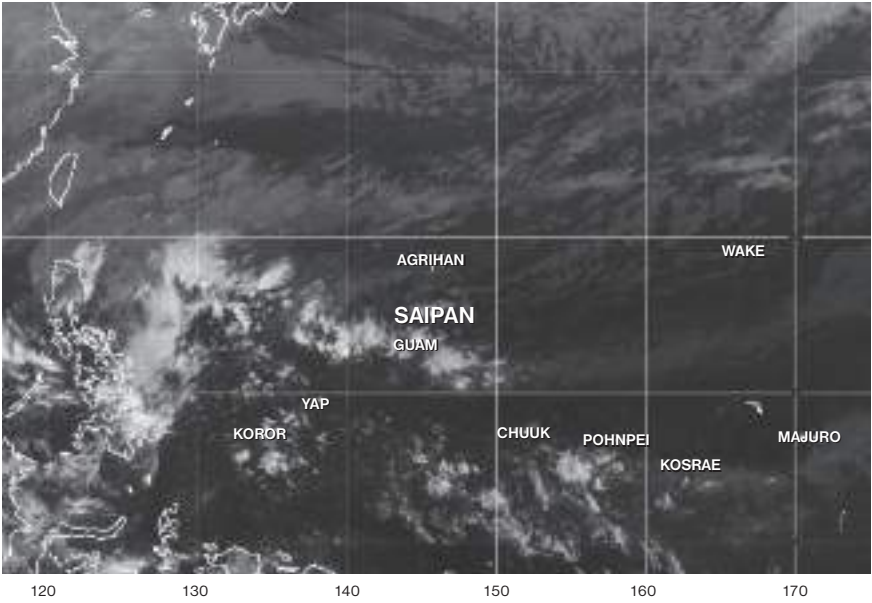
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲73 ▼66
Beijing	Sunny	▲37 ▼13
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲64 ▼52
Honolulu	Showers	▲79 ▼70
London	Partly Cloudy	▲40 ▼34
Los Angeles	Windy	▲74 ▼46
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼77
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲79 ▼60
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼64
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲29 ▼23
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲47 ▼35
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲42 ▼35
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲41 ▼26
Rome	Showers	▲49 ▼39
Salem	Showers	▲52 ▼42
San Francisco	Sunny	▲64 ▼48
Seoul	Sunny	▲28 ▼13
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲47 ▼35
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲39 ▼31

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
2:34 AM	Today	High Tide:	0.6 Feet	
9:25 AM	Today	Low Tide:	2.1 Feet	
3:03 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.0 Feet	
8:09 PM	Today	Low Tide:	2.1 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front stretches southwestward from 17N180 to 15N175E then continues as a shear line to 11N150E. The shear line then curves northwestward to end at 16N130E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found near Guam along and up to 150 miles north of shear line west of 11N150E otherwise. Cloudiness and scattered showers are found along and up to 120 miles northwest of this boundary. A surface trough extends southward from Pohnpei to EQ157E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found south of Pohnpei between 6N and 2N from 155E to 159E. Another surface trough runs southward from 10N175E to 2N174E. Scattered showers are located east of Marshall Islands between 8N and 3N from 171E to the date line. Converging trade winds are generating scattered showers just south of Kosrae within 50 miles of a line from 5N159E to 4N171E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:47 AM	6:09 PM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM
Sunday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM
Monday	6:47 AM	6:11 PM
Tuesday	6:47 AM	6:11 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:35 PM	7:34 AM
Saturday	8:35 PM	8:21 AM
Sunday	9:34 PM	9:06 AM
Monday	10:32 PM	9:51 AM
Tuesday	11:30 PM	10:35 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
 - Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6	DL286	7:45pm	12:20am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)				OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily	OZ120	9:50am	2:20am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ604	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via KIX	OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
CA988	3:15am	6:55am	1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only	CA987	6:40pm	1:55am+1	4, 7 Dec 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 only
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ716/603	12:30am	2:20pm	4, 6 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/286	8:05am	12:20am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09313/933	7:55am	9:25pm	3 via GUM	OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
C09313/893	7:55am	11:00pm	3 via GUM-Palau	OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	9:25pm	5 via GUM	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	11:00pm	5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7	C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM-Palau
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 7 via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	4 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:10am	12:00pm	1 via ICN	OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	12:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	10:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ604/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/749	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	C0910/9596	11:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Letter to the Editor

Land rich but cash poor

Several articles appeared in the local papers about land and Article XII. One of them stated that while he is land rich, he is unable to better his life because under Article XII, his selling price for his land is artificially low.

How many of us are in this similar situation? We are land rich but cash poor and therefore we can't realize our full potential. Yes, there are local buyers. But they know that Article XII is on their side. This is the same with

leasing your land to non-NMD. The price that one could have gotten if it is an open market (no Article XII) can never be realized.

What are we to do? The 25-year period will be up this year. The founders of the CNMI

Constitution never intended for Article XII to be a permanent feature and that is why after 25 years, we are given the opportunity to examine the matter.

We should take this opportunity to seriously question its validity given our situation now. Objectively, I feel strongly that Article XII has fulfilled its goals but is totally outdated now and in fact, it is a burden to the community, it will separate families, it will disenfranchise especially those at 25 percent blood quantum, the last line to be considered NMD.

There are talks about changing the blood quantum to 1

percent. We need to understand that any restriction will be a burden even at 0.0001 percent. What we need to realize is that our economy, our being and our business are all tied in and affected by the world community. We can't make decisions and expect the world to change or adjust to us. The reality is we are an integral part of the world economy, a much bigger entity.

I ask each of us to please read up on Article XII. Read especially the section-by-section analysis so that you can be informed and know the truth about Article XII.

Remember, abolishing Article XII will not force anyone to sell their land. Abolishing Article XII will give us absolute authority and absolute ownership of our land. We will therefore be able to decide what is best for us, our family and our land. No one will be forced to sell their land and those that prefer to lease their land still have that option. Furthermore, no one will be cheated by not being able to sell at the market value of their property.

FULL
From Page 10

You got denied that supplemental medical referral assistance. You expect more scholarship assistance for your kids. The services at the hospital are not to your expectation. Your kids are home, graduated from college and they can't get a job. You're not earning enough to pay CUC. You see people employed who do nothing or are incapable of doing their job. You hear about contracts, donuts, beer and now panty and you tell yourself, this is just not fair.

It isn't fair and it's not right and, like you, I'm mad as hell. But in demanding and expecting change, we too must change by determining what is it that we want for Tinian and how our style of politics has hindered us in reaching our goals.

Let's be clear about one thing. Mr. Atalig does not care for Tinian. His official requests are coming from the office of the very attorney whose contract

the MOT suspended and whose billings are being questioned. In fact, the attorney representing Mr. Atalig also works with said attorney. Said attorney wants his sweetheart contract back. And let me tell you that it was just as incredibly sweet during the former mayor's time. This is not about caring or concern for Tinian. This is about that contract and this about having a "turn" when you win an election. I don't know about you but I'm tired of how we get played. I'm exhausted and revolted of the self-centered political gamesmanship that a select few play using us as pawns.

I want progress. I want change. I want accountability. This is what I'm going to do about it. After getting all the information requested from the Mayor's Office, I'm going to post it on a website for our community to view. I may not be there but there are a lot of people who are willing to help by going to the Mayor's Office to scan and electronically send the information. We will demand

that at a minimum, a quarterly full expenditure report be given. Let's also get the full facts out about the last four years. It will give everyone a better understanding and a clearer picture of how we've gotten so deep to begin with. This is not about attacking anyone. This is about full disclosure and giving everyone an opportunity to look at the information and to see for themselves how our money has been spent. This is a win-win for all of us. We keep them honest and at the same, we don't have to keep assuming or be used in a fight that makes us all losers.

Mr. Atalig and company are the only winners here. We have seen how political catfights on Tinian play out. It all ends up the same way. Before we know it, we will not only be stuck with Mr. Atalig's attorneys fees and our attorneys fees but we will probably also end up paying for their "kiss and make-up" drinking session. Let's not let them further turn us against each other and let's work on something more productive.

There are talks about changing the blood quantum to 1 percent. We need to understand that any restriction will be a burden even at 0.0001 percent. What we need to realize is that our economy, our being and our business are all tied in and affected by the world community. We can't make decisions and expect the world to change or adjust to us. The reality is we are an integral part of the world economy, a much bigger entity.

I ask each of us to please read up on Article XII. Read especially the section-by-section analysis so that you can be informed and know the truth about Article XII.

Remember, abolishing Article XII will not force anyone to sell their land. Abolishing Article XII will give us absolute authority and absolute ownership of our land. We will therefore be able to decide what is best for us, our family and our land. No one will be forced to sell their land and those that prefer to lease their land still have that option. Furthermore, no one will be cheated by not being able to sell at the market value of their property.

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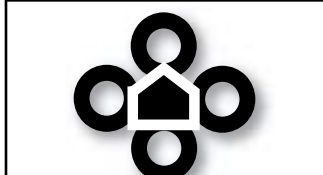
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Letter to the Editor

Recovery plan

I hear and see what these business investors are trying to address, and now I see why the feds want to take over. In a recent news, the reporter stated that Labor is still requiring business investors to hire local. I'm a local, and I have an AA degree but because of the economic hardship I can't find a job. When I applied for a job at two businesses, I got the "I'm-sorry-we-are-on-freeze-hiring" letter. Yet they continue to hire. I also walk into employment and check the vacancy announcements, only to find that the only jobs available are for maintenance, cashier, and security.

No one has what I'm looking for. I walked into a busi-

ness establishment and was going to apply for a job and a woman walked over and begged me not to take her job. Of course, as a human being I agreed, because I have children abroad. Gods knows maybe these people may one day return that favor. At one time, the people of Tinian went to Guam to work and send money over for their families, and I was one of those families. Out of humanity, it is a sin for us to turn our face away from these people. At one time, the people of Guam hired us when we were still aliens; maybe now is our turn.

There is no such thing as qualified individuals until

proven. Before the government tries to enforce these laws, they should survey all those government employees' qualifications and have WIA handle their transfer to the private sector. You heard the investors: They try so hard to find dependable, reliable, and honest employees and very few are. Have WIA pay for these people to be trained and work for the private for one year and that might make a difference. From there you'll have the records to prove that locals can do the job.

Please pardon me if I'm wrong (or maybe WIA has improved already) but WIA is non-compliant with our

needs. First they take the application, then put our children in whatever job is available out there and not what is on the application. Secondly, no one from WIA goes to high schools to conduct a career program, nor to employers to search for qualified trainers. First, help our children find a career (don't forget to tell them what is the salary). Second, find qualified individuals in private or government who can train and to take applications or hold job fairs. Third, inform them if they can be hired and for how long the training is going to take place. At the same time, help them find what college education they

need to complete their skill trainings and be able to work. I went through the old WIA process three years ago with my children and my children all got mad at me for listening to them. Luckily, my instincts and common sense led me to the right path and that is to go out, find the job my child likes and help him apply. Without WIA's help, I managed to help my son get his job. He's still working for almost three years now and soon should be relocating to further his education in the culinary arts.

I asking lawmakers to tell WIA to create these programs to help affected government employees find a job. We need someone who can help our children and adults look for a career, someone who can create a program for both private and government that works, someone who can publish jobs vacancies and post it out monthly, and someone who can go out to do a survey on individuals who are looking for careers and keep records for references. And if these things are already in place, then these individuals should be evaluated by an accredited college for qualifications. Because something is totally wrong.

Winnie Atalig
San Jose Tinian

Letter of apology

To the Department of Finance, Division of Revenue and Taxation; and the citizens of the Commonwealth: Pursuant to the judgment and commitment order in Superior Court Criminal Case No. 09-0108C, I wish to extend by humble and sincere apology to the citizens of the CNMI for the crimes I committed in violations of 6CMC 1707 (b)(2). I have fully realized my mistake and the wrong decisions I have made in committing such ill-conceived actions. Regrettably, I am now presently enduring the consequences of such act. Although this experience has proved challenging and very hard for me, I have accepted responsibility for my wrongful action. Nonetheless, I am now committed more than ever to be a positive contributing citizen in our community.

In recognizing that I cannot undo what has been done, I am hopeful that all those whom I may have offended will be able to forgive me for my offense.

Velma A. Arriola
Koblerville, Saipan

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Feel the difference

Probationer gets 7-month sentence

Lucas Taitano Manglona, one of three persons convicted of passing fake bills to some stores on Saipan, admitted in federal court on Wednesday to violating some conditions of his supervised release and was ordered to spend seven months in prison.

Manglona appeared at the hearing with his lawyer, Robert Torres. Assistant U.S. Attorney James Benedetto represented the U.S. government.

Manglona admitted to the violations as reported to the court by the U.S. Probation Office.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Michael W. Mosman revoked Manglona's supervised release and ordered that upon completing his seven-month jail term, he will be placed on supervised release

for 29 months.

The judge remanded Manglona into the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Benedetto had recommended seven months in prison, three months home confinement, and 29 months of supervised release.

Torres recommended seven months imprisonment, with three out of four months being served as home detention.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola informed the court last week that Manglona had violated some conditions of his supervision.

Arriola said Manglona failed to refrain from the use of illegal drugs and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

Arriola said the probationer also violated the con-

dition that requires him to participate in a substance abuse program, which may include testing to determine whether he has returned to using drugs or alcohol.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Secret Service, with the assistance of the local police, busted Manglona, Nestor Taitano, and Kisha Lyn Masga King in 2009 for using fake money to defraud at least four establishments. All three pleaded guilty.

Manglona was sentenced in September 2009 to one year and one day in prison. After serving the jail term, he was placed on three years of supervised release.

Manglona's supervision began on Jan. 8, 2010. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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Printing funded by the Cooperative Agreement for Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Tracking, Surveillance, and Integration.



EECBG Department of Energy officials visit CNMI

Visiting Department of Energy project officers were on Saipan from Jan. 13 to 14 to monitor the progress of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant administered by the CNMI Energy Division.

Project officers Pat Saito and Britt Hinnen met with Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan, Energy Division director Thelma Inos, acting Finance Secretary Larissa Larson, along with Treasury Division and Federal Grants Section, and Michael Ada, ARRA state lead, to work out the details of administering the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds designated

for renewable energy alternatives and energy conservation.

The project officers were on island to conduct their first monitoring visit and assess the progress of various projects to be funded by the grant. One such visit included a trip to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to view particular projects such as the radiator and engine retrofits funded by the grant. Other projects on their agenda included viewing plans to help extend the life of the island's landfill through studying the fuel potential of the current waste and to convert that waste to energy.

The \$9.5 million grant, which is part of the ARRA, will be used

to fund various energy programs throughout the CNMI as well. Some projects currently underway include the Energy Star Rebate Program and the Residential Weatherization Program. Other programs in the works include implementing a residential recycling program, cool roof program, and installation of PV panels in government offices, to name a few.

For further information about any of the grants programs, call the Energy Division office directly at 670-664-4480/1 or visit the website at www.cnmienergy.com. E-mail questions, comments, or concerns to energy@pticom.com. (*Office of the Governor*)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Department of Energy project officers Pat Saito and Britt Hinnen join Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan, Energy Division director Thelma Inos, and acting Finance Secretary Larissa Larson during a visit to different sites on the island.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday greetings going out to a phenomenal woman, mom, and friend, Crystal Nicole Roberto Sablan, who celebrates her birthday today, Jan. 21! May you be blessed with many more birthdays to come and may all your birthday dreams and wishes come true! Much love coming out from your two boys, Isaiah and Seth, your entire familia, and friends.



Happy first birthday Zoe Franzine Mata Lopez! Wishing you many more years of love, blessings, and happiness.

Happy birthday greetings go out to John Delos Reyes, who is celebrating his special day today, Jan. 21! Go, it's your birthday, we're going to party like it's your birthday! With lots of love, Sinfiorosa and Tawnie.



Happy 13th birthday to Melisha Remedio Diaz Lizama! Love, from mom, dad, and the family.



A happy birthday shoutout to Kristal "KK" Babauta, who is celebrating her birthday today, Jan. 21! May you have a glorious and fabulous day! Much love coming out from all your family and friends!

USCPA PASSER



The EY Saipan family congratulates Frances Amog for passing the USCPA exam recently. We're so proud of you!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FEAST OF SANTO NINO

In this file photo, devotees join last year's procession for the Annual Feast of Santo Niño at the Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Oratory in San Vicente. The feast will be held tomorrow, Jan. 22, at the Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Oratory (Ten Commandments and 14 Stations of the Cross). Members of the Children of God the Father Inc. Saipan are inviting everyone to join the celebration. The novena will be at 2:30pm, holy Eucharistic celebration will follow at 3pm. Dinner will follow the 4pm procession. For more details about the event, contact either Amie or Zusie at 235-5046 or 235-4658.

PREL offering scholarship for future Pacific teachers

The Pacific Resources for Education and Learning is now accepting applications for the Pacific Teacher Scholarship Fund, a scholarships program that awards tuition assistance ranging from \$750 to \$1,000 to students pursuing a teaching career in the U.S.-affiliated Pacific.

Founded by PREL in 2004, it aims to increase the number of qualified teachers working in the Pacific region. The funds are a collection of charitable donations from the community-at-large, including businesses, PREL staff and board members, and the general public.

To apply for a scholarship for the 2011-2012 school year, contact your local PREL Service Center at <http://www.prel.org/contactprel.aspx> or visit PREL's Pacific Teacher Scholarship web page at <http://www.prel.org/opportunities/pacific-teacher-scholarship.aspx>, where the application form and instructions are posted.

All application materials must be received at PREL's Honolulu office by April 1, 2011.

To date, more than 40 aspiring teachers have been awarded scholarships. Among them is Jalma Manglona, from the island of Rota. With the assistance of a federal Pell Grant and a CNMI scholarship, Manglona is a full-time student at Guam Community College and now plans to simultaneously attend the University of Guam so that she may graduate sooner with an associate of science degree and begin her teaching career in early childhood education. She graduated from Rota High School.



Manglona



Coffin

Last year Alexander Edward Coffin, from American Samoa, was also awarded a scholarship. He is a seventh-grade science teacher at Matafao Elementary School pursuing his bachelor of arts degree in education as a full-time online student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. (*PREL*)

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Kilili to sit on Natural Resources, Agriculture committees

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan will have seats on both the House Natural Resources Committee and the Agriculture Committee in the 112th Congress. The Democratic Caucus of the House made the announcement yesterday.

Sablan served on the Natural Resources Committee in the 111th Congress, but will be new to the Agriculture Committee membership.

"I am very glad to be continuing on Natural Resources, which has jurisdiction over insular affairs," Sablan said. "I met with incoming Chairman of the Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Areas Subcommittee, Dr. John Fleming of Louisiana, last week and I

look forward to good working relationship with him.

"He served in the Navy on Guam. So he is no stranger to the Marianas.

"I am also pleased to have won a seat on the Agriculture Committee. I will be working there with Ranking Member Collin Peterson of Minnesota, who has been to the Northern Marianas and also understands what our islands are like.

"Agriculture will be a key committee in this Congress as the major farm legislation, which is reauthorized every five years, has to be taken up."

The farm bill is often a major area of policy debate because of the various crop subsidies it contains. With spending cuts a primary concern of the new

Republican House leadership, the farm bill will be intensely scrutinized.

"Crop subsidies get a lot of attention," Sablan explained, "But in reality the farm bill is largely about food and nutrition. The food stamps program, for instance, is under the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Committee.

"I am very committed to making sure people in the Marianas are able to get enough food for their families and will be using my seat on Agriculture for this purpose.

Sablan says he also sees the new committee assignment as an important tool to helping the NMI economy.

"Right now we have one industry: tourism. Everyone

agrees we need to diversify; and agricultural development is an opportunity to do that.

"Our farmers are already looking to supply the new market for food created by the Guam military build-up. We have entrepreneurs working on permitting a U.S. Department of Agriculture certified slaughterhouse on Saipan. And our hotels and school meal programs are a ready market for local produce. There's lots of potential for growth.

"The other aspect of an agricultural economy that I like is that it can work for all our islands. Rota, Tinian, and Saipan can all have increased farming and aquaculture.

"And, of course, we have good support systems for agricultural through NMC CREES.

But I'll be looking to boost the college's capacities there, too.

The Agriculture Committee also has jurisdiction over rural development programs administered by the Department of Agriculture. These include electricity and water infrastructure and the deployment of broadband communication systems. All are areas of need for the Northern Marianas.

Sablan served on the Education and Labor Committee in the 111th Congress, but was unable to keep his seat there because he lacked seniority.

"The Republicans slashed the size of Education and Labor from 49 to 36. So junior members, like myself, were cut. It's hard not to see that shrinking of the Education

Committee as a reflection of the importance the new leadership puts on education.

"In my view, education is absolutely essential to economic development in the Marianas and for our nation. So, I disagree with the downgrade in importance.

"But I will retain the two years of seniority I have on that committee. And in the future that will help me get back onto Education.

"In the meantime," said the Northern Marianas Congressman, "Agriculture is a good place for me to be to help our economy grow."

Subcommittee assignments will be made over the next week or so. Each member is entitled to sit on four subcommittees. (PR)

FIRST FRIDAY FILMS

'Addicted to Plastic' plays Feb. 4

February's First Friday Films brings an exciting new movie, *Addicted to Plastic*. The film shows the shocking truth about the plague of plastic pollution worldwide. The show will be at the American Memorial Park and starts at 6:30pm. There will be creative displays in the visitors center lobby.

Addicted to Plastic shows the cycle of many different types of plastics people use everyday, the many threats they pose to oceans and health, and the challenges with recycling plastic.

"It is a wake-up call... a sort of eco-horror movie!" said Dr. M. Cervino of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.

It also presents unique and bizarre solutions to reducing, reusing, and recycling this useful yet toxic material.

The movie reveals the disgusting truth about the widespread disaster of plastic pollution on land and especially in oceans. From the first day plastic was invented until now, every piece of plastic made is still around today—except for some that has been incinerated. Plastic floating around in the oceans can be mistaken for food by marine organisms, and because it has a tendency to attract other oily pollutants, these plastic bits become coated with toxins and eaten by

birds and fish, which end up on our plates.

Although scientists agree that plastic has become an environmental catastrophe, there are only a few who have joined the fight to get rid of it. Because it can be built, shaped, and used in almost any way, people have become more dependent on it than ever and therefore will only increase the hunger for more plastic.

First Friday Films is a monthly film series a partnership with the National Park Service, Division of Environmental Quality, and generous support from community groups such as the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance.

The Pacific Historic Parks (formerly the Arizona Memorial Museum Association) Bookstore inside the visitor's center will be open until 8:30pm. All proceeds go to community education programs.

For planning purposes, the movie runs about 85 minutes long. As always, First Friday Films is free and open to the public. Limited seating is available; arrive early to ensure entry. Find more information about the film at www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. Subscribe to the blog for regular updates on upcoming events. (PR)

10 beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged seven beach sites on Saipan and three on Rota and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites on Saipan are the Bird Island Beach, Jeffries Beach, Tank Beach, Hidden Beach, Old Man by the Sea, Ladder Beach, and Unai Dangkulo. On Rota, it is the West Harbor Marina, Teteto Beach,

and Guata Beach.

DEQ said that samples collected from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Water samples were taken from 38 locations on Saipan and 12 on Rota this week. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Watch Cases up to \$750 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Chains up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Nugget Rings up to \$800 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Broken Rings up to \$500 |
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Climate secrets of Marianas Trench probed



The ROV Little Hercules being lowered into the sea.

NOAA

By REBECCA MORELLE
BBC NEWS

Editor's Note: This article was originally published by BBC on Jan. 16, 2011.

The climate secrets of the deepest part of the ocean, the Marianas Trench in the western Pacific Ocean, have been probed by scientists.

The international team used a submersible, designed to withstand immense pressures, to study the bottom of the 10.9km-deep underwater canyon.

Their early results reveal that ocean trenches are acting as carbon sinks.

This suggests that they play a larger role in regulating the Earth's chemistry and climate than was thought.

Although two explorers, Jacques Piccard and Don Walsh, reached the deepest part of the Marianas Trench—a point called the Challenger Deep—in 1960, no humans have been back since.

And the handful of scientific missions, including this recent visit to this deepest spot, have been carried out using unmanned underwater vehicles.

Lead researcher Professor Ronnie Glud, from the University of Southern Denmark and the Scottish Association for Marine Science (Sams), said that working at more than 1,000 atmospheres of pressure was challenging, but advances in technology had made it possible.

He told BBC News: "This is the first time we have been able to set down sophisticated instruments at these depths to measure how much carbon is buried there."

Under pressure

Professor Glud, working with scientists from the Japan Agency for Marine Earth Science and Technology (Jamstec) and from the UK and Germany, used a lander equipped with special sensors packed in a titanium cylinder that was able to resist the remarkable pressures.

The lander was launched from a ship and took three hours to free-fall to the sea bottom, where it carried out pre-programmed experiments before releasing its ballast and returning to the surface.

The tests helped the scientists to assess the abundance of carbon at those murky depths.

Professor Glud said: "Basically, we are interested in understanding how much organic material—that is all the material produced by algae or fish in the water above—settles at the sea bed, and is either eaten by bacteria and degraded or is buried.

"The ratio that is either degraded or buried is the ultimate process determining what are the oxygen and carbon dioxide concentrations of the oceans and the atmosphere, and this gives us an overall picture of

how efficiently the sea can capture and sequester carbon in the global carbon cycle."

While this has been studied in other parts of the ocean, such as the abyssal plain—the large flat area of the ocean that lies between 4.6km and 5.5km of depth—the role deep sea trenches play in the carbon cycle has until now remained largely unknown.

Professor Glud said: "Although these trenches cover just 2 percent of the ocean, we thought they might be disproportionately important, because it was likely that they would accumulate much more carbon because they would act as a trap, with more organic matter drifting to the bottom of them than in other parts of the ocean."

He explained that preliminary data from his experiments suggested that this was the case.

He said: "Our results very strongly suggest that the trenches do act as sediment traps. And they also had high activity, meaning that more carbon is turned over by bacteria in the trenches than is turned over at 6,000m of depth in the abyssal plain.

"What it means is that we have carbon storage going on in these trenches that is higher than we thought before, and this really means that we have a carbon dioxide sink in the deep ocean that wasn't recognized before."

The next stage for the team is to quantify their results and work out exactly how much more carbon is stored in deep sea trenches compared with other parts of the sea, and how much carbon turnover by bacteria is being carried out.

This, the researchers said, should help them to better establish the role of the ocean trenches in regulating climate.

Surprising finds

This is not the first time deep sea trenches have surprised scientists.

Recent studies by University of Aberdeen's Oceanlab team have revealed that marine life is much more abundant in this hostile habitat than was previously thought.

In 2008, they filmed the deepest living fish ever to be caught on camera—a 17-strong shoal found at depths of 7.7km in the Japan Trench, and the revealed other animals such as amphipods were present in large numbers even deeper.

Dr Alan Jamieson, from Oceanlab, said the new study was helping researchers to build up a better idea of what happens in the deepest of the deep.

He said: "The trenches continue to amaze us.

"And to see an experiment such as this carried out at these extreme depths is a great leap forward in deep-sea science.

"These studies will greatly enhance our understanding of how the deep trenches contribute to carbon cycling in the world's oceans."



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
ENFORCEMENT SECTION AND ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICE
Second Floor Afetria Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0956/0957 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0995

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR HEARING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2011 - FIRST NOTICE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2011 - SECOND NOTICE

The Employee and Employer is hereby notified to report to the Department of Labor, Administrative Hearing Office, 2nd Floor, Afetria Square Building, San Antonio, Saipan for a hearing to address the matter of the complaint. This notice will serve as a "Proof of Service of this Notice of Hearing". For information, please call 236-0900 ext. 314.

Case Number	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
LC # 10-1108	Aguda, Emelinda B.	Celes, Cecilia & Alfred A.	Mar. 1, 2011	9:00 A.M.
CAC # 10-467-09	Espiritu, Crispin	Concepcion, Mariana R.	Feb. 3, 2011	1:00 P.M.
CAC # 10-439-08	Alday, Vanessa	Dottie Ent. Inc. dba Godfather's Bar	Feb. 3, 2011	1:00 P.M.
CAC # 10-469-09	Park, Dong Sik	Jesson Presbyterian Church Inc.	Feb. 3, 2011	9:00 A.M.
CAC # 10-490-12	Roque, Jovit	Marianas Fast Food, Inc.	Feb. 3, 2011	1:00 P.M.
CAC # 10-476-10	Azarcon, Eutemio Jr.	Ogumoro, Ambrosio T.	Feb. 3, 2011	9:00 A.M.
CAC # 10-476-10	Bermiso, Rolly	Ogumoro, Ambrosio T.	Feb. 3, 2011	9:00 A.M.
CAC # 10-469-09	Kye, Sukyung	Park, Dong Sik	Feb. 3, 2011	9:00 A.M.
CAC # 10-447-08	Jeongeun, Park	Shakir's (CNMI) Inc.	Feb. 3, 2011	9:00 A.M.
CAC # 10-447-08	Tualla, Antonio	Shakir's (CNMI) Inc.	Feb. 3, 2011	9:00 A.M.
CAC # 10-491-12	Yu, Guiqin	Sterling Corporation	Feb. 3, 2011	1:00 P.M.
CAC # 10-470-09	Romero, Sandra	Takagi & Associates, Inc.	Feb. 3, 2011	9:00 A.M.
CAC # 10-451-08-UP	Song, Linlin a. k. a. Aguon, Linlin Song		Feb. 3, 2011	1:00 P.M.

Failure to appear on the scheduled date may result in an Administrative Order being entered against you.
Dated this 12th day of January 2011.

/s/ Jeffrey T. Camacho
Enforcement OIC

NOTICE OF HEARINGS
PENDING 2010 DENIAL APPEALS
FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2011 - FIRST NOTICE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2011 - SECOND NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetria Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. Please bring any documentation necessary to resolve the issues that led to the denial of your permit application. If you fail to appear or fail to bring required documentation, the appeal may be dismissed and an administrative order may be entered against you. Any employee who intends to request permission to transfer to a new employer must appear at the hearing to make that request; failure to appear may result in immediate denial of transfer relief.

Denial Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
10-086	Yang, Wenfu (EE)	Ador Development Corp. (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	9:00 A.M.
10-155	Wu, Yongjing (EE)	Crystal Star Corporation (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	9:00 A.M.
10-041	Bernal, Vilma F. (EE)	Food Merchant Int'l (Spn) (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	9:00 A.M.
10-010	Ibay, Gaudiosa R. (EE)	Gem's Corporation (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	9:00 A.M.
10-303	Joson, Josh David (Dpn)	Joson, Reynaldo (Spn)	Feb. 10, 2011	9:00 A.M.
10-037	Eto, Miyuki (EE)	My Care Corporation (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	9:00 A.M.
10-094	Wang, Liping (EE)	New Seoul, Inc. (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	9:00 A.M.
10-069	Dizon, Robert P. (EE)	Pacific Inc. (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	1:00 P.M.
10-067	Hagos, Jaime L. (EE)	Pacific Inc. (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	1:00 P.M.
10-068	Hong, Sung Sik (EE)	Pacific Inc. (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	1:00 P.M.
10-123	Javinar, Dionisio G. (EE)	Palacios, Mr./Mrs. Eleuterio A. (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	1:00 P.M.
10-036	Esconde, Ramonito O. (EE)	Piteg, Lucia A. (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	1:00 P.M.
10-292	Gao, Jing Jing (EE)	Rui Jin Trading Corporation (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	1:00 P.M.
10-099	Zhou, Qin (EE)	Zhen Rui Brother Corp. (ER)	Feb. 10, 2011	1:00 P.M.
10-264	Sasidharan, Pottyath (EE)	Correction of Name	Feb. 10, 2011	1:00 P.M.
	Change of Name			



GRAND PRIZE WINNER

Grand prize winner Annabella Villamor, second from right, receives her prize in Western Union's "Can I win amazing prizes? Yes!" promotion. Villamor received \$1,000 cash from Western Union. Others in picture are, from left, Western Union FLA Cris Tuazon, Pedro Dela Cruz, owner of Rota sub-agent RMC; and Western Union FLA Roan Flor.

WESTERN UNION

NOAA offers free online ocean exploration course
» Workshop intended for teachers and the public

A free online educational workshop for formal and informal educators, ocean explorers, scientists and other interested members of the public will be available from NOAA later this month. The course named "How Do We Explore?" is based on the voyages of NOAA ship *Okeanos Explorer*, which most recently completed a joint expedition with an Indonesian vessel and scientists in Indonesian waters.

The workshop will be accessible seven days a week, 24 hours a day starting Jan. 24 through Feb. 11, allowing participants to work on their own time and at their own pace. Topics will include: searching for ocean anomalies, selecting sites for exploration, communication tools, telepresence technology, ocean mapping techniques, water column study and operating underwater robots called remotely-operated vehicles, or ROVs.

Registration is open and information is available at: <http://www.coexploration.org/oe-hdwe>.

Participants will engage with ocean explorers and others, and will receive a variety of downloadable supporting materials. For educators, the course contains inquiry-based lesson plans for all grade levels and the option to receive either one graduate extension credit (\$100) from California State University at Fullerton or a certificate of completion.

"All life on Earth relies on the ocean and yet the ocean is 95 percent unexplored, unknown and unseen by human eyes," said Paula Keener, director of education programs for NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research. "To better understand, manage and protect the ocean and its resources, NOAA believes it is critical to use the best technology to explore, discover, inform, educate



NOAA

NOAA ship *Okeanos Explorer*, America's ship for ocean exploration.

and motivate."

Workshop presenters include:

■ **Steve Hammond, Ph.D.**, chief scientist, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research

■ **Lieutenant Nicola VerPlanck**, operations officer, NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer*

■ **Catalina Martinez**, regional manager and expedition coordinator, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research

■ **Mashkoor Malik**, physical scientist, NOAA *Okeanos Explorer* Program, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research

■ **Sharon L. Walker**, oceanographer, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory

■ **Edward Baker, Ph.D.**, supervisory oceanographer, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory

■ **Dave Lovalvo**: founder/owner, Eastern Oceanics; adjunct professor, Institute for Exploration; ROV team lead, NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer*

The course is the latest in an online series presented by NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research in partnership

with The College of Exploration to provide an online setting through which educators and others from around the world can meet, view keynote addresses given by ocean explorers and ask questions of keynote speakers.

Celebrating 10 years of ocean exploration, NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research uses state-of-the-art technologies to explore the Earth's largely unknown ocean in all its dimensions for the purpose of discovery and the advancement of knowledge. Follow NOAA's ocean expeditions at: <http://www.OceanExplorer.noaa.gov>.

NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* is operated, managed and maintained by NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, which includes commissioned officers of the NOAA Corps and civilian wage mariners. NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research is responsible for operating the cutting-edge ocean exploration systems on the vessel. It is the only federal ship dedicated to systematic exploration of the planet's largely unknown ocean. Davisville, R.I., is the ship's designated home port. (NOAA)

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipattamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE EXTENSION FOR PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (a) and (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to recommend the extension of a lease on certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This lease extension is subject to the approval of the Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Legislature in accordance with the mandate set out in Article XI, § 5(c) of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- i. The leased premises is described as public land Lot No. 151 R 01, containing an area of approximately 8,049 square meters, more or less, situated in Sabana, Rota. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
- ii. The lessee is Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation d.b.a. IT&E, a CNMI Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation are Ricardo C. Delgado, Jovino G. Lorenzo, Jr., Jose Ricardo PR Delgado, E. Norbert Garrett, Robert R. Anderson, Jose S. Dela Cruz, John Noel Doherty, Keiji Ikemura, and Masao Miyamoto.

The President of the Corporation is Jose Ricardo PR Delgado. The Treasurer is Lawrence P. Knecht. The Secretary is Fe D. Vicencio.

- iii. The proposed lease extension was negotiated by Mr. Lawrence P. Knecht.
- iv. The lessee shall continue to use the premises solely for the purpose of maintaining and operating telecommunications transmitters, antennas, and activities related thereto.

The term of the lease agreement extension is 15 years.

- v. Copies of the proposed lease extension agreements may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; in Songsong, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

- vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public lands in Sabana, Rota.

- vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before February 4, 2011 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NOTISIA POT MAPROPONEN INEKSTENDEN INATKILON TANO' PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106(a) yan (b) gi Lain Pupbliku 15-2, i Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku guini ha nã'i notisia ni intesiona para u rekomenda i inekstenden inatkilon gi pumalu na tãno' pupbliku siha giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Isla Marianas siha. Este na inekstenden atkilon siha manmasuheto para i inapruuban i Lehislaturan Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islan Marianas gi sigun ni mamãnda ni mapega huyong gi Attikilu XI, § 5(c) gi Konstitusion i Sangkattan na Islan Marianas siha. Maseha hãyi na petsona siha gi halom i pupbliku henerãt siha ha na'hãlom i imfotmasion, opiõn, pat testamoõn kinentra siha gi tinahguen propositu siha ni para i atkilon tãno' pupbliku. Sigi mãs mo'na mapribeniya ginen i Lain Pupbliku 15-2, i tinattitiyi pettanesen imfotmasion ni madimãnda ni debi na u mapupblika.

- i. I lugãt atkilon siha madeskribe komu tano' pupbliku Lot No. 151 R 01, kinonsiste ãrian kãsi guaha 8,049 square meters, potlumenus mãs, ni gaige gi Sabãna Luta. I kopian i pumalu na lugãt gaige na gumuaha gi Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku siha ni para i rikonosimiento.
- ii. I manatikikila i Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation d.b.a. IT & E, i CNMI na Korporasion. I Kuetpon i Direktot siha gi Korporasion si Ricardo C. Delgado, Jovino G. Lorenzo, Jr., Jose Ricardo PR Delgado, E. Norbert Garrett, Robert R. Anderson, Jose S. Dela Cruz, John Noel Doherty, Keiji Ikemura, yan si Masao Miyamoto.

I Presidenten i Korporasion si Ricardo PR Delgado. I Tresurãrio si Lawrence P. Knecht. I Sekritãrio si Fe D. Vecencio.

- iii. I mapropone na ekstension atkilon manegosio gi as Siñot Lawrence P. Knecht.
- iv. I manatikikila debi na u kontinua umusa i lugãt siha uniku para i rason i maneran maintaining yan operating telecommunications transmitters, antennas yan maseha hãfa na mana 'achule' na aktibidãt siha guihi.

I teman i kontrãtan atkilon ha ekstende gi 15 ãños.

- v. Kopian i manmapropone na ekstension atkilon na kontrãta siha siha machule' gi ofisinan i Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku siha, gaige gi segundo bibienda 2nd floor gi Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan; Songsong, Luta; pat i primet 1st floor gi Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

- vi. I Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku siha tãya' ha risibi tinahguen propositu siha para suheton atkilon tãno' pupbliku siha gi Sabãna, Luta.

- vii. I Sekritãrion i Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku siha debi na u akseptã i tinige' i imfotmasion, opiõn yan testamoõn kinentra pat tinahguen propositu siha ginen i manggai interes na pattida siha gi pat ãntes di Fibreru 4, 2011 gi ofisinan Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku siha ni gaige Saipan, Luta, pat Tinian.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sãngi Tãlil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwilil Falúweer Toulap ekki atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipel, Commonwealth Téel Falúwasch Marianas. Akkilon yeel nge ebwe mwir sangi alughulughul Sow Ffeerul Allegh mellol Commonwealth Northern Mariana Islands iye e alléghewow mellól Article XI, Tãlil 5(c) mellól Allégh Lapalap Northern Mariana Islands. Schóókka eyoor mãfiyeer nge rebwe isisilong aghiyghiir, awewee, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap mebwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal awewee kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatéeló.

- i. Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap nge ekki bwãari Lot No. 151 R 01, ebwe eyoor walangaras ebwughuw faigh me tiwoow (8, 049), elapeló me ngãre eghús, elo Sabana Luuta. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngãre óubwe ghuley fischiy.
- ii. Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Micronesian Corporation d.b.a. IT&E CNMI Corporation. Mwiischil assamwool kkaal mellol Corporation nge Richard C. Delgado, Juvino G. Lorenzo, Jr., Jose Ricardo PR Delgado, E. Norbert Garrett, Robert R. Anderson, Jose S. Dela Cruz, John Noel Doherty, Keiji Ikemura, me Masao Miyamoto.

Samwoolul Corporation nge Jose Ricardo PR Delgado. Treasurer nge Lawrence P. Knecht. Sekkeretoria nge Fe D. Vicencio

- iii. Schóól aweweel pomwol akkilon ye e sobwosobw nge Mr Lawrence P. Knecht.
- iv. Schóól akkilon ebwe ammwela bwuley me ayoora Telecommunications transmitters, antennas, me lamal kka eyoor Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years)

- v. Tilighial akkilon yeel nge emmwel óubwe bwughi mereel bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llo Tuturam, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Songsong, Luuta; me ngãre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.

- vi. Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo pomwol akkilon ye elo Lower Base, Seipel..

- vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal Mããischigh (February) 4, 2011 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta, Tchúlúyól.

Business

China agrees to purchase billions in US goods

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration, trying to build ties with an economic rival, said Wednesday that China would buy \$25 billion in U.S. goods and had given final approval to a long-negotiated \$19 billion deal for 200 Boeing planes.

The announcement came as Chinese President Hu Jintao arrived at the White House for a state visit with President Barack Obama.

■ ■ ■ ■
WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama says he has told Chinese President Hu Jintao (hoo jihn-tow) that China's currency

is still undervalued. Speaking alongside Hu at a White House news conference Wednesday, Obama said that while some steps have been taken to make the yuan market-based, progress hasn't come fast enough. The U.S. and other countries charge that China keeps its currency artificially low in order to maintain an export advantage. Obama says a market-based yuan would not only increase U.S. exports to China, but would also help Hu reach his goal of increasing domestic demand.

■ ■ ■ ■
The agreements could ease

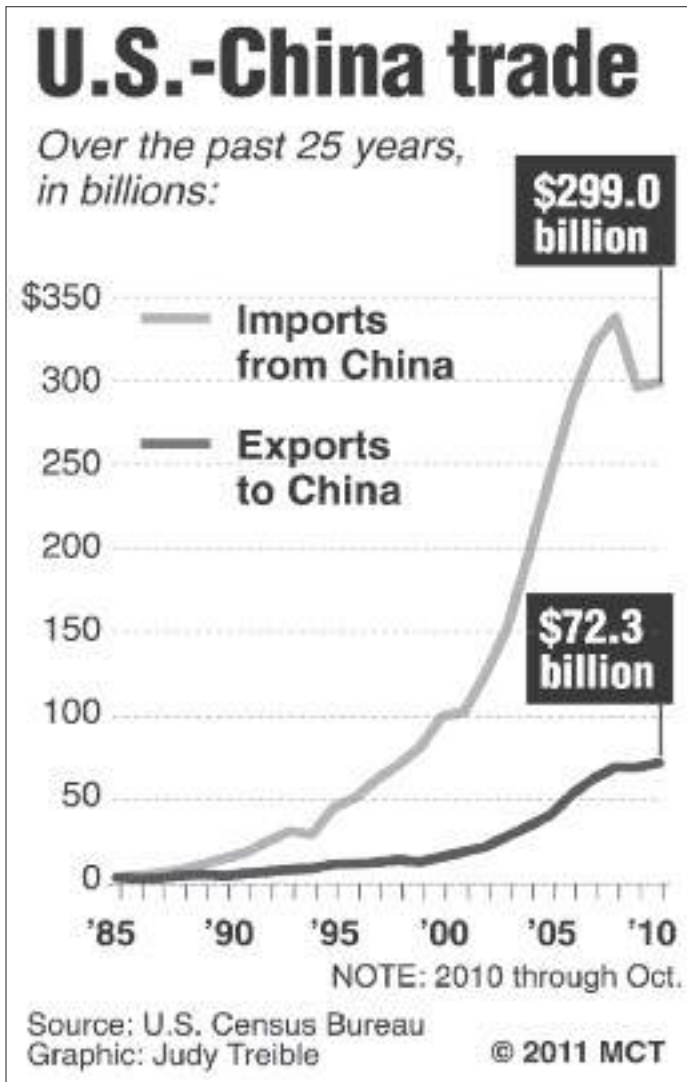
some concerns from Washington and Americans businesses, which contend China has hurt U.S. exports by keeping its currency artificially low. That makes Chinese products cheaper in the U.S. and U.S. products more expensive in China. At a White House meeting with business leaders, Hu told U.S. executives he welcomed their business and said his country was speeding up economic restructuring and trying to boost domestic consumption—a chief concern for the U.S. as it looks to reduce the trade gap with China. Obama said at a joint news conference later with Hu that while there are vast oppor-

tunities to expand U.S. trade and investment with China, both countries must create conditions to ensure their economic relationship is balanced. "I did also stress to President Hu that there has to be a level playing field for American companies competing in China, that trade has to be fair," Obama said. The U.S. exports about \$100 billion annually to China in goods and services, supporting about half a million American jobs, according to the White House. Officials said Wednesday the new deals with China would support up to 235,000 jobs in the U.S.

Among the U.S. companies involved are General Electric, Honeywell and Navistar. Boeing had been in negotiations with China over the aircraft deal for several years, but awaited final approval from the Chinese government before it could go ahead with the sale.

"We want to sell you all kinds of stuff," Obama said. "We want to sell you planes. We want to sell you cars. We want to sell you software."

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce said more work is ahead to remove barriers for American companies working in China. "These kinds of business deals, while very positive, can not be a substitute for some of the structural changes China needs to make," said Jeremie Waterman, the Chamber's senior director of China policy. The White House said Chinese officials have said Beijing would start addressing some of the barriers that have angered U.S. businesses. During Hu's visit, Chinese officials agreed to better enforce



intellectual property rights and ease a policy that limits Beijing's purchase of foreign products to those designed in China. U.S. businesses see the policy as a ploy to force them to turn over their technology to China or be locked out of business with the government. The White House said Chinese officials agreed not to make government buying decisions based on where the intellectual property rights for goods or services are developed or maintained, and wouldn't dis-

criminate against innovative products made by foreign suppliers operating in China. U.S. software companies have said they're cheated out of billions in sales because Chinese companies, and even government agencies, illegally copy their programs instead of buying them. In the business meeting at the White House, Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer told Obama his company estimates that just one of every 10 customers using Microsoft products in China actually paid for them.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **RESTROOM REPAIRS AND WATER PUMP IMPROVEMENTS** at the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP 3-69-0002-62/CPA-SA-002-09**, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

All bids will be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: Saipan International Airport Restroom Renovations and Water Pump Improvements, AIP 3-69-0002-62/CPA-SA-002-09 and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2011**, to the office of the Executive Director at he Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of existing restroom repair such as replacement of doors, plumbing fixtures, floor and wall tiles, ceilings, and all toilet accessories; mechanical fixtures; electrical fixtures; replacement of the existing hydro-pneumatic tank; mechanical rehabilitation and replacement of the existing water pump motor and controls, all in accordance with the Plans and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **three hundred sixty (360) calendar days**. Liquidated damages of **Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP-70-25 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **10:00 am, FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2011**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders are required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **ten percent (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.


The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: December 14, 2010

**BUSINESS BRIEFS**

EPA, Chrysler work on hybrid engines for minivans

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP)—Chrysler and the Environmental Protection Agency are trying to adapt an engine technology invented by the EPA to improve gas mileage in minivans. The company and the government agency said Wednesday they're working to fit the EPA's hydraulic hybrid system into Chrysler minivans. If it works, the system could boost minivan mileage 35 percent to around 27 miles per gallon. Currently the top Chrysler minivan gets 20 mpg in combined city and highway driving. The agreement was announced as Chrysler and other auto companies seek new technologies to help to meet stricter government fuel economy regulations that call for a fleet average of 35.5 miles per gallon by 2016, nearly 10 miles per gallon more than now. The standards could go as high as 47 mpg to 62 mpg by 2025.

Banks say fewer consumer loans are going bad

NEW YORK (AP)—Americans are starting to get their household finances in order. In an encouraging round of earnings reports, major banks say fewer mortgages are going bad, credit card defaults are down and more people are paying the bills on time. One of the nation's largest consumer lenders, Wells Fargo, said Wednesday that 29 percent fewer loans went bad in the last three months of 2010 than the year before. And late payments on loans considered likely to default declined for the first time since 2008. Late payments on credit cards issued by Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase and Citigroup also improved at

Goldman earnings fall 53 percent in fourth quarter

NEW YORK (AP)—Goldman Sachs' earnings fell 53 percent in the fourth quarter due to sharp declines in its bond trading and investment banking businesses. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. earned \$2.23 billion after paying preferred dividends in the last three months of the year, down from \$4.79 billion in the same period year earlier. On a per-share basis, the earnings came out to \$3.79 per share versus \$8.20 per share. Analysts surveyed by FactSet expected the bank to earn \$3.76 per share. Revenue fell 10 percent to \$8.64 billion. Goldman fell 2.4 percent to \$170.48, leading other financial stocks lower.

Nation

House votes to repeal Obama's health care law

WASHINGTON (AP)—Swiftly honoring a campaign pledge, newly empowered Republicans pushed legislation to repeal the nation's year-old health care overhaul through the House Wednesday night, brushing aside implacable opposition in the Senate and a veto threat from President Barack Obama.

The 245-189 vote was largely along party lines, and cleared the way for the second phase of the "repeal and replace" promise that victorious Republicans

made to the voters last fall. GOP officials said that in the coming months, congressional committees will propose changes to the existing legislation, calling for elimination of a requirement for individuals to purchase coverage, for example, and recommending curbs on medical malpractice lawsuits.

Republicans also intend to try to reverse many of the changes Democrats made to Medicare Advantage, the private alternative to the traditional govern-

ment-run health care program for seniors.

Like the repeal bill itself, these other measures will require Senate approval and a presidential signature to take effect, and the prospect is for months of maneuvering on the issue.

Debate across two days leading to the vote was markedly restrained, as lawmakers in both political parties observed self-imposed vows of civility in the wake of the

shooting rampage in Arizona that left six dead and Rep. Gabrielle Giffords wounded.

But there was no mistaking the significance many first-term Republican lawmakers attached to a day they had long waited for, finally getting a chance to speak and then vote on the House floor against a law they had campaigned for months to repeal.

Rep. Jeff Duncan, R-S.C. said the legislation produced by Obama and congressional Demo-

crats was a "job-killing, socialist" approach to health care. Rep. Frank Guinta of New Hampshire, who defeated a Democratic incumbent last fall, said it was misguided, needing repeal.

"The American people have soundly, soundly rejected the Democrats' government takeover of health care," said Rep. Sandy Adams of Florida.

Rep. Steve Southerland, also of Florida, said the law imposes a crushing tax burden on busi-

nesses, and he predicted "1.6 million jobs will be lost by 2014 due to this mandate" to require many businesses to provide coverage for employees.

Both Floridians won their seats by turning out Democratic incumbents.

"This is not symbolic. This is why we were sent here," added Rep. Michelle Bachman, of Minnesota, a third-term conservative with strong support among tea party activists.

Federal grand jury indicts Ariz. shooting suspect

PHOENIX (AP)—A federal grand jury on Wednesday indicted the suspect in the deadly Arizona shooting rampage that wounded U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

The indictment against Jared Loughner, 22, accuses him of attempting to assassinate Giffords and trying to kill two of her aides.

It does not include two murder charges listed in an earlier criminal complaint for the deaths of Giffords aide Gabe Zimmerman, 30, and U.S. District Judge John Roll, 63.

Those are potential death penalty charges. A statement from the U.S. attorney for Arizona, Dennis

Burke, said those require a more painstaking process under Justice Department rules.

Burke said the initial indictment issued by a grand jury in Tucson was just the beginning of federal legal action against the 22-year-old Tucson resident.

Six people were killed and 13 wounded in the Jan. 8 attack at a grocery store in Tucson as Giffords held a meet-and-greet with constituents. State charges are pending.

Calls to each of Loughner's attorneys, Judy Clarke and Mark Fleming, weren't immediately returned Wednesday evening.

The indictment was expect-

ed. The federal criminal code mandates that an indictment be brought within 30 days of an arrest.

Burke said the investigation is still in its early stages, and additional charges are likely.

Before federal officials seek charges carrying the death penalty, families of the victims will be consulted and a review by a Justice Department committee is required.

Loughner remains in federal custody without the possibility of bond. He is set for a preliminary hearing on Monday in Phoenix.

The San Diego-based judge set to hear the case ordered it moved to a larger federal courtroom on Wednesday. The courtroom is the centerpiece of the downtown Phoenix courthouse and is mostly used for ceremonial and high-profile hearings.

ACROSS THE NATION

Ala. governor apologizes for remarks on Christians

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley apologized Wednesday for his inauguration day remarks about only Christians being his brothers and sisters and said he would work over the next four years for people of all faiths and colors. Bentley said he didn't mean to insult anyone with comments he made from the pulpit of a church once led by Martin Luther King Jr. He said he was speaking as an evangelical Christian to fellow Baptists. "If anyone from other religions felt disenfranchised by the language, I want to say I am sorry. I am sorry if I offended anyone in any way," Bentley said Wednesday.

DA: Pa. abortion doc killed 7 babies with scissors

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A doctor whose abortion clinic was described as a filthy, foul-smelling "house of horrors" that was overlooked by regulators for years was charged Wednesday with murder, accused of delivering seven babies alive and then using scissors to kill them. In a nearly 300-page grand jury report filled with ghoulish, stomach-turning detail, prosecutors said Pennsylvania regulators ignored complaints of barbaric condi-

tions at Dr. Kermit Gosnell's clinic, which catered to poor, immigrant and minority women in the city's impoverished West Philadelphia section. Prosecutors called the gruesome case a "complete regulatory collapse."

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANA HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, vs. BENITO S. TAMAN and DOMITILIA T. TAISACAN, Defendants. CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0418 NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on December 21, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: That certain tract or parcel of real property situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, designated as Lot No. 002 G 286, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 07 dated May 31, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 90-1904, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, January 28, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 29th day of December, 2010:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK vs. SUZETTE O. SASAMOTO and FELIX SASAMOTO, JR., Defendants. Civil Action No. 09-0514

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an order issued by the Court in this matter, on October 21, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 011 G 1508, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, and containing an area of 780 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011/G30, the original of which was recorded on May 11, 1994, as Document No. 94-1218, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, the description herein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, February 11, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

Dated, this 11th day of January, 2011

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

William M. Fitzgerald, Esq. LAW OFFICES OF WILLIAM M. FITZGERALD 2nd Fl. Macarans Bldg., Garapan Beach Road P.O. Box 500909 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: (670) 234-7241 Fax: (670) 234-7530

Attorney for Petitioners

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF SEAN DIEGO WILLIAM MENDIOLA, a minor child. FCD-AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0631(R) NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Adoption, filed by Petitioners Diego D. Mendiola and Angelita P. Mendiola, to adopt Sean Diego William Mendiola, a minor child, was filed in the above-entitled Court.

A hearing on this matter is set on February 25, 2011, at 10:30a.m. at the Guma' Hustisia Building, Sinapalo, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 31st day of December, 2010.

Bernadita Sablan Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT INVITATION FOR BID IFB-NMC-033 SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRUARY 03, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M. "COMPUTER REPLACEMENT PLAN FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE" BID PACKETS ARE MADE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE CNMIARRA STATE LEAD, LOCATED IN THE MARIANAS BUSINESS PLAZA, THIRD FLOOR, OFFICE #315 OR REQUESTED VIA E-MAIL TO nmc_computer_replacement@recovery.gov.mp. THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT. /s/ MICHAEL J. ADA CNMIARRA STATE LEAD /s/ LORRAINE T. CABRERA INTERIM PRESIDENT, NMC /s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT INVITATION FOR BID IFB-NMC-035 SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRUARY 07, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M. "SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF A VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM EQUIPMENT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE" BID PACKETS ARE MADE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE CNMIARRA STATE LEAD, LOCATED IN THE MARIANAS BUSINESS PLAZA, THIRD FLOOR, OFFICE #315 OR REQUESTED VIA E-MAIL TO nmc_video_surveillance@recovery.gov.mp. A MANDATORY SITE INSPECTION AND PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 25, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE NMC PROCUREMENT PROPERTY MANAGEMENT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE 2ND FLOOR, BUILDING L. THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT. /s/ MICHAEL J. ADA CNMIARRA STATE LEAD /s/ LORRAINE T. CABRERA INTERIM PRESIDENT, NMC /s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR PORTFOLIO/SECURITIES MONITORING SERVICES SERVICES REQUIRED The Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT), a public trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands requests proposals from legal counsel(s) with significant experience and expertise in evaluating, monitoring and carrying out securities fraud litigation for public/private trust and/or pension plans. The monitoring, evaluation advice and counseling services would be offered at NO COST to MPLT. Interested firms are asked to submit proposals outlining their ability to serve in the roles of monitoring, evaluation and litigation counsel. SCOPE OF SERVICES The services requested will include but not limited to: ■ Monitor MPLT's investments for any losses that may have occurred as a result of a violation or potential violation of securities laws or a breach of any duty owed to the Trust ■ Provide legal research, analysis, advice and guidance with respect to securities law; ■ Provide MPLT with securities monitoring and administration services that will provide MPLT with expert legal advice and litigation-related services; ■ Be responsive on a "as needed" basis to confer with and provide recommendations to MPLT regarding case status, strategies, and potential settlement or other resolution of cases PACKAGES & SUBMITTAL DATE One original and Five copies of the sealed clearly marked "Portfolio Monitoring Services Proposal" RFP 11-01, shall be submitted to the attention of Mr. Phillip Mendiola-Long, MPLT Chairman, P.O. Box 501089, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 4:00 P.M., Monday, January 31, 2011. If there are any questions relative to this notice, interested parties are asked to contact Ms. Barbara Reyes during the hours stated above. The RFP is also available online at www.mplt.gov.mp. PHILLIP MENDIOLA-LONG

Asia

With Obama, Hu concedes China's rights need help

WASHINGTON (AP) —In a rare concession on a highly sensitive issue, Chinese President Hu Jintao used his White House visit on Wednesday to acknowledge “a lot still needs to be done” to improve human rights in his nation accused of repressing its people. President Barack Obama pushed China to adopt fundamental freedoms but assured Hu the U.S. considers the communist nation a friend and vital economic partner.

Hu's comments met with immediate skepticism from human rights advocates, who dismissed them as words backed by no real history of action. Hu contended his country has “made enormous progress” but provided no specifics.

Still, his remarks seemed to hearten and surprise U.S. officials, coming during an elaborate visit that centered on boosting trade and trust between the world's two largest economies.

More broadly, Hu and Obama sought to show off a more mature and respectful relationship, not the one often defined by

disputes over currency, sovereignty and freedoms. Hu said he wanted even closer contact with Obama; Obama sought again to embrace China's rise, and the two men shared some unexpected laughs.

The Chinese president was treated lavishly, granted the honor of the third state dinner of Obama's presidency. He was welcomed in the morning to the sounds of military bands and the smiles of children on the South Lawn; he was capping the evening at a black-tie White House gala of jazz musicians and all-American food.

Eager to show progress, particularly with the unemployment weighing down his country, Obama said the nations sealed business deals that would mean \$45 billion in U.S. exports and create roughly 235,000 jobs. The package included moves by China to expand U.S. investment and curtail theft of intellectual property.

China's human rights record is poor and worsening, with abuses ranging from censorship to ille-

gal detention of dissidents to executions without due process, according to the U.S. government. In a packed news conference—one designed to underscore the freedom of speech on Obama's home turf—Hu was pressed to defend his country's treatment of its people. He initially did not answer, saying he never heard the question translated, although the White House said that it was.

When prodded a second time, Hu defended his country's promotion of human rights. But then he added that China is enduring challenges as it develops and “a lot still needs to be done in China in terms of human rights.” He said China stood to gain from other countries' input, saying: “We're also willing to learn.”

For his part, Obama had to find a balance, standing up for freedoms while not overstepping Hu during the uncommon honor of a state visit. Obama said his nation's relationship with China is bettering the world's economy and security, and that it cannot stop over “tension” about human rights fairness.

Pakistan escapes major quake damage

DALBANDIN, Pakistan (AP)—A powerful earthquake in Pakistan that also rocked buildings in India, Afghanistan and the United Arab Emirates damaged at least 200 mud-brick homes close to the epicenter, but caused no casualties, officials said Wednesday.

The 7.2 magnitude quake struck at 1:30 a.m. local time Wednesday in a remote area some 200 miles (320 kilometers) southwest of the Baluchistan provincial capital of Quetta, not far from the Afghan border. It sent thousands running from their homes in panic.

“I am sad over the damage caused to my home, but I am happy that we did not suffer any loss of life,” said Ali Dost

in Dalbandin, a town of about 15,000 people located near the epicenter. Part of the roof in his simple home had collapsed.

In the hours after the quake, some Dalbandin residents were so worried about aftershocks that they sat outside in the cold and dark rather than return to their damaged homes, said police official Asad Ullah.

Two hundred tents and blankets had been distributed to quake-affected people, said Tahir Munir Minhas, the head of Baluchistan's National Disaster Management Authority. Night-time temperatures in the region hover around freezing.

The quake damaged some 200 homes in Dalbandin, said Nadeem Ahmed, chairman of

the disaster authority. No casualties have been reported in the country so far, he said.

Quakes of 7.2 magnitude can cause massive destruction. Wednesday's temblor was some 50 miles (84 kilometers) below the surface—relatively deep—something that typically reduces the destructive force of a quake. It was also in a very sparsely populated area.

Tremors were felt across much of south and central Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and the United Arab Emirates, according to residents. Authorities were still surveying remote areas of Baluchistan, said Saeed Jamali, deputy commissioner of Chaghi district, where Pakistan conducted its first nuclear tests in 1998.

tack came two days after a visit to the restive south by Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, who vowed his government's dedication to ending a seven-year Islamist insurgency in Thailand's three southernmost provinces. More than 4,300 people have been killed in the insurgency since January 2004. Wednesday's attackers also set fire to two shelters in the base and took away an unknown number of M16 assault rifles.

Indonesian ex-cop given 10 years on terror charges

DEPOK, Indonesia (AP)—A former Indonesian policeman was sentenced Wednesday to 10 years in prison for supplying weapons to a terrorist cell allegedly plotting a series of attacks on foreigners. Sofyan Tsauri, 34, was arrested after security forces raided a militant training camp in the westernmost province of Aceh one year ago. Judge Dwiarto Santiarto told a district court on the outskirts of the capital that Tsauri was guilty of selling dozens of assault rifles, revolvers and other weapons to the previously unknown terrorist cell called “Al Qaida in Aceh.”

World

Spokesman: Passport delays Duvalier's Haiti exit

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Former Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier applied for a new passport Wednesday and intends to leave the country when he gets it, a spokesman said, insisting that the ex-strongman can neither be forced to leave his homeland nor compelled to stay and face a potential criminal trial.

Duvalier had been scheduled to leave Thursday but can't because his passport has expired, said spokesman Yves Germain Joseph. He stunned the country Sunday with his sudden and mysterious return nearly 25 years after he was forced into exile by a popular uprising against a regime widely viewed as brutal and corrupt.

The spokesman said he did not know how long it would take to get a new passport but that the former dictator known as “Baby Doc” was in no rush to leave Haiti.

“He is home here. He is a Haitian,” Joseph said. “Nobody can ask Mr. Duvalier or any Haitian to leave his country at any time.”

Duvalier associates have been giving conflicting statements about his intentions and legal status in recent days. Earlier Wednesday, one of his attorneys said he wanted to stay in Haiti.

Defense attorney Reynold Georges told reporters that it is Duvalier's right to remain in Haiti, but that he is free to travel. He stressed that Haiti's government has not ordered Duvalier to return to France following his surprise return on Sunday.

“He is free to do whatever



Like father, like son

Jean-Claude “Baby Doc” Duvalier has come out of exile in France, returning to Haiti. A look at this despot and his notorious father:

Francois ‘Papa Doc’ Duvalier

Early life

Born 1907, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Education Medical degree from Haitian National University Medical School, 1934; studied at University of Michigan, 1944-45

From medicine to politics

1946-50 Minister of health and labor under President Dumarsais Estime

1950 Returns to medicine after opposing the government takeover by Paul Magloire; eventually goes into hiding in the countryside

1956 Emerges from hiding; elected president on a populist, black nationalist platform

Tyrannical leader

1957 Assumes presidency and soon creates the Tonton Macoutes (“bogeyman”), or secret police; repressive rule based on intimidation, military force, the cult of personality and voodoo, causing many Haitians, especially the educated, to flee

1961 Reelected in what many assume was a fraudulent election

1964 Has constitution changed; declares himself “president for life”

1971 Directs National Assembly to alter the constitution so his son can succeed him; dies soon after

Jean-Claude ‘Baby Doc’ Duvalier

Early life

Born 1951, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Education Raised in an isolated environment; read the law under several professors from University of Haiti

World's youngest president

1971 Assumes the presidency upon the death of his father, invested with near-absolute power

• Like his father, he calls himself “president for life” and continues repressive rule, aided by the brutal Tonton Macoutes

• Alleged corruption, human rights abuses, a failing economy prompt more than 100,000 Haitians to flee

• Popular protests forced him to leave the country in 1986; shortly before leaving, he insisted he remained “stiff as a monkey's tail,” a Haitian Creole expression

Life in exile

2007 Asks Haitian people for forgiveness in a radio interview while living in France

2011 Returns to Haiti as the country is about to choose a president in a runoff election

© 2011 MCT
Source: BBC, Infoplease.com,
Encyclopedia of World Biography
Graphic: Pat Carr

er he wants, go wherever he wants,” Georges said of the once-feared strongman. “It is his right to live in his country ... He is going to stay. It is his country.”

Alice Blanchet, a special adviser to Prime Minister Jean-Max Bellerive, refused to speculate about Duvalier's plans to stay in a country struggling through a dire political crisis following the problematic Nov. 28 first-round presidential election, as well as a cholera epidemic and a troubled recovery

from the last year's devastating earthquake.

“Let justice do its job, run its course. He is a citizen and no one is above the law,” she said in a Wednesday e-mail, adding that Duvalier “remains available to the prosecutor” while he is in Haiti.

The former dictator has declined interview requests and Haitian government officials could not be immediately reached to confirm the spokesman's account of his passport status.

WORLD BRIEFS

Moroccan teen says Berlusconi never touched her

MILAN (AP)—Silvio Berlusconi and the Moroccan teenager at the center of an underage prostitution probe targeting the Italian premier both denied any sexual contact in separate comments Wednesday. Berlusconi taped a video message—the second time in a few days—to defend himself from the probe by Milan prosecutors into his encounters with the teenager, nicknamed Ruby Rubacuori (Ruby the Heart-Stealer). The 74-year-old leader charged that the prosecutors used methods worthy of a Mafia criminal and said he would not respond to a summons by the prosecutors this weekend because he does not want to give credence to an investigation he called illegitimate and politically driven.

Rains put Sao Paulo on alert, Rio deaths rise

SAO PAULO (AP)—Brazilian officials put Sao Paulo on alert Wednesday as heavy rains hit the metropolis. In Rio state, meanwhile, deaths from last week's mudslides rose to 727. Rains falling in Sao Paulo flooded major highways, a day after downpours stranded motorists, forcing them to be rescued by helicopter from atop their

vehicles. One woman died when her house collapsed in the Tuesday rains. The mayor's office issued flood alerts for much of the city, but no new deaths were reported Wednesday. In towns north of Rio de Janeiro where the deadly mudslides hit last week, a break in rain allowed rescuers to step up delivery of supplies to isolated areas. They also recovered bodies, pushing up the death toll.

UN adds 2,000 troops to Ivory Coast force

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The U.N. Security Council on Wednesday voted unanimously to deploy 2,000 additional peacekeepers to Ivory Coast, where the incumbent president has refused to relinquish his post to the man internationally recognized as the West African country's legitimate leader. Ivory Coast has seen violence and increased tension since the disputed presidential election in November. The new U.N. troops, to be deployed through June, would bolster the world body's peacekeeping force to nearly 12,000. African Union envoy Raila Odinga, Kenya's prime minister, said Wednesday that despite two days of meetings he has failed to persuade incumbent Laurent Gbagbo to relinquish the presidency to Alassane Ouattara.

ASIAN BRIEFS

US veterans help Vietnam find war-era mass grave

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—American veterans of the Vietnam War have helped the Communist country locate a mass grave of 81 of its soldiers who died in battle more than 40 years ago, the Vietnamese military said Wednesday. Authorities have dug up the bones of the North Vietnamese soldiers in the Central Highlands province of Kon Tum, hoping to return them to their families. The soldiers are believed to have died during an attack on a U.S. base in the area in March 1968, Vietnamese army Lt. Col. Tran Van Khanh said. They were buried by the Americans.

4 soldiers killed in attack on Thailand army post

PATTANI, Thailand (AP)—The military says four soldiers have been killed in an attack on their post in southern Thailand by at least 20 armed men. Lt. Col. Thanit Saengchan says six other soldiers were wounded in the attack Wednesday evening on the army unit in Narathiwat province's Ra-ngae district. The at-

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Chihuahua survives owl attack in suburban Chicago

CRYSTAL LAKE, Ill. (AP)—An owl attack has left a 4-pound Chihuahua with a healthy fear of the dark. The attack happened when Chico the Chihuahua was out for a walk with his owner George Kalomiris in the Chicago suburb of Crystal Lake last week. Kalomiris says they were walking down the street when a great horned owl swooped down and tried to fly away with the 3-year-old dog. Kalomiris says he kept a firm grip on Chico's leash as the bird dragged the dog across the sidewalk, and he managed to scare the owl away. Chico was treated for a puncture wound caused by the owl's talons.

Lego-lover builds replica of Ohio State stadium

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—A Columbus-area man has created a Lego replica of Ohio State's horseshoe-shaped football stadium, complete with a decorated archway and scoreboard made of the small blocks. Paul Janssen used about a million Lego pieces to build the 8-foot-by-6-foot model, which has room for 6,000 Lego people. The 42-year-old Ohio State researcher tells The Columbus Dispatch it was a chal-

lenge to create the rounded model out of the mostly rectangular blocks that fill his basement in stacked containers. It took about 1,000 hours over two years. He studied the stadium, bought or traded for pieces and improvised, such as making pipes for the restrooms out of chrome parts from a Lego truck. Now he's talking about adding a BCS or Heisman trophy to the display.

Mass. police chief: Man tried to sell me fake gold

RANDOLPH, Mass. (AP)—Police say a Boston man picked the wrong mark when he tried to sell him fake gold jewelry at a grocery store. The man approached William Pace on Sunday and offered to sell him a bracelet and chain marked as 14 karat gold for \$100. Two problems: Pace is the police chief in Randolph, Mass., and he owns a jewelry store. Pace, who was out of uniform, tells *The Patriot Ledger* he could tell the gold was fake by its look and feel. The suspect, identified by police as Johnnie Butts, will be issued a summons to appear in court on a charge of attempt to commit larceny by false pretense. Police are trying to determine if Butts sold any fake jewelry to others before approaching Pace.


Museum recovers \$50K Civil War gun stolen in 1975

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—A Civil War revolver that was stolen more than 30 years ago from the Museum of the Confederacy

has turned up again. Collections Manager Catherine Wright tells WTVR-TV that the .36-caliber Spiller & Burr revolver was stolen in 1975 when the museum collection was moved to a new building. A woman in Knoxville,

Tenn., discovered the gun in December in her late father's belongings. She tried to sell it to an Ohio antique dealer who traced the gun to the museum. WTVR reports that the woman's father collected Civil War items. It's not

known how he came into possession of the gun. The woman will not face charges. Wright says the Spiller & Burr revolver was one of the first Confederate-manufactured handguns. This one has an estimated value of \$50,000.



First Death Anniversary

‘Angel Dela Cruz Atalig’

We the family humbly invite our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the passing of our
“BELOVED ANGEL”
unto eternal life.

Nightly rosary will commence on Sunday, January 23, 2011 at 7:00 pm at the residence of Richard & Jessa Atalig in As Matuis, On the final day, Monday, January 31, 2011, rosary will be said at 12:00 pm. The Eucharistic Mass will be at 6:00 pm at San Roque Church. The Family extends their invitation for dinner immediately after the Mass at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Richard Atalig.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.
Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase ginen as:

Carmen C. Atalig yan I familia.

In Loving Memory of †Lisa Marie Aldan Villagomez

June 24, 1976 – January 14, 2011

In Her new life, she now joins her:

Father: †Joaquin Tenorio Villagomez
Brother: †Joseph Aldan
Daughter: †Yuriginalynn Michelle
Paternal Grandparents: †Jose Seman and +Antonia Tenorio Villagomez
Maternal Grandparents: †Jose Castro and +Rita Matagolai Aldan

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Mother: Remedio Aldan Villagomez
Children: Jackielynn V. Espinosa; Ciara Alyssa A. Lizama
Friend: Anisio Sokuna
Brothers, Sister and In-Laws:
Raymond A. and Janice A. Villagomez (Kaelani Kay & Jack Vincent)
Jeffrey A. Villagomez and Ana M Teregeyo (Ryan)
Carmen V. and Stanley L. Laniyo (Carley)
Francisco Cabrera and Vera Tudela (Deron, Deko & Dennica)

She will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Mass of Intention is being celebrated each evening at 6:00 pm. at St Jude Church in Koblerville followed by Holy Rosary at 6:30 pm.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, January 22, 2011. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30 am to St Jude Church. Responso Service will be at 8:00am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30am followed by Interment Service at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers.

Remedio Aldan Villagomez, Children and Family
Anisio Sokuna and Children



In Loving Memory of Julieta Lanzanas Villegas

October 28, 1944 – January 17, 2011

In her new life she now joins her:

Father : †Domingo Lanzanas
Mother : †Rosario Canon Lanzanas
Father-in-law : †Urbino Villegas
Mother-in-law : †Esther Villegas
Sister-in-law : †Remedios Villegas
Grand Daughter : †Maria Lourdes Villegas Bautista
Grand Son : †Dustin Dela Pena Villegas
Brothers : †Erning & †Hilario Lanzanas

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Husband : Levy Nicolas Centeno Villegas
Children : Warren & Marylou Villegas (Christian, Kimberly, Aemir & Kershey)
Lea V. & Romel Besmonte (Rowel, Mark, Jayward, & Nicca)
Malou V. & Arnel Bautista (Rene, E.J., & Nathan)
Jenelyn Villegas (Shanne, Gwenn, & Daylinne)
Joel & Corazon Villegas (Clyde, Sidney, R.J. & Justin)
Haydn & Meann Villegas (Alyssa & Heidi)
Nicco Levy & Kathy (Keesha, Nicole, Bryan & Anthony)
Diane V. & Ben Mettao (Vianney, Jerome, Connie & Eleazir Levy)
Errol Villegas
Lanie (Micco & Abby)
& 5 Great-Grand Children
Sisters : Matea, Anita, Miling, Dolores & Patricia

She will also be missed by her numerous relatives and friends.

Mass of intention will be offered every morning at 6:00 am at Mt. Carmel Church and Holy Rosary at 7:30 pm at the Villegas Residence in Chalan Kanoa #1.

Last day of Holy Rosary in on January 27, 2011 at the Villegas Residence in Chalan Kanoa #1.

Please join us in prayers.

The Villegas Family



Science & Technology

Nintendo 3DS to cost \$250, out March 27 in US

NEW YORK (AP)—Promising to usher in a new era in 3-D entertainment, Nintendo says its glasses-free handheld 3DS will go on sale on March 27 in the U.S. for \$250. That's the same price that the revolutionary Wii console cost when it went on sale in 2006.

The president and chief operating officer of Nintendo of America, Reggie Fils-Aime, said Wednesday the 3DS is a "truly unique experience that doesn't exist anywhere else."

"This is a different kind of 3-D. Something you haven't experienced before. Not in theaters, not at trade shows," Fils-Aime told a crowd of journalists, bloggers and analysts in New York City. "Of course, there are no glasses."

The gadget features a touch screen on the bottom and a 3-D screen on top. It has three cameras, one facing the user and two facing outward. The latter two let you take 3-D photos, which can be instantly displayed on the screen. There's also an accelerometer and a

gyroscope. These track players' movements and how they tilt the screen, so they can play games with motion-based capabilities or see the 3-D games from different angles.

A "Mii Creator" uses photos you take of yourself to instantly create a cartoon avatar based on your image. Then you can adjust it as you like.

The 3DS includes new social features, including "StreetPass," which lets users exchange game information with other 3DS users nearby. For example, your Mii avatar or game high scores can appear on your friend's 3DS if they have also chosen to activate this feature.

Nintendo Co. said more than 30 games will be available for the 3DS by early June. Games will range from "Nintendogs + Cats," which adds feline companions to the popular puppy simulator to "The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time 3D" to 3-D versions of EA's Madden NFL Football" and Capcom's "Resident Evil: The Mercenaries."



In this photograph taken by AP Images for Nintendo of America, Chris Eades of GayGamer.net has fun playing the Nintendo 3DS portable video game system in New York on Jan. 19, 2011.

Older games, including those for the original Game Boy, will be available for download.

The 3DS will be available in black and shiny aqua blue. It can play games from older DS systems, but they just

won't be in 3-D. The 3-D gradient is adjustable on the 3DS, or it can be turned off completely. If your eyes don't adjust to the 3-D screen immediately, it helps to start out the games in 2-D mode and then slowly turn up the 3-D slider.

Nintendo recommends that children aged 6 or younger should not play 3-D games because it could affect the development of their vision, similar to warnings issued by makers of other 3-D products.

But the American Academy of Ophthalmology says there are currently no conclusive studies on the short- or long-term effects of 3-D products on children's eye development or vision health. At the same time, if a healthy child develops headaches or can't see 3-D images, this could be a sign of an eye disorder, the group said in a statement this week.

How to clone your hard drive

By **NOAH MATTHEWS**
MCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

The time comes all too soon when you will want to upgrade your computer. Agony of agonies, you will face the prospect of reinstalling all your programs—a day-long job—along with your data before you get up and running. Or you can back up or clone the old hard drive to an external hard drive. Consider the latter, and you will save time and aggravation.

HDClone, a freeware program for Windows PCs, opens to a simple menu, where you're asked to choose the old drive, decide what kind of copy you want to make and choose a destination drive, which has to be larger than the source drive. After you have backed up or cloned your old hard drive, simply copy the backup to your new drive. If you're changing operating system, you should back up only your data, just to make sure you don't corrupt the new operating system. The clone works best if you're going from Vista on the old machine to the same version of Windows on the new PC.

As simple as it sounds, it's not for the faint-hearted. Mess up, and you could lose everything, which is a good reason to study the help files before plunging into cloning a disk. I'm not saying newbies can't figure it out, I just think you should understand the

difference between a simple backup of your data (always a good idea) and an image of your entire old hard drive. And, of course, before you format your old drive, make absolutely certain that everything installed correctly on the new PC. It wouldn't hurt to back up your data to an external drive, either. Done right, you will be able to restore everything on your new hard drive from an image of your old hard drive. That's a huge convenience if your hard drive crashes after you've made an image of your drive.

The free program (www.hdcclone.com) is limited in both features and speed. The pay versions, which start at about \$20, add the ability to back up and restore hard drive partitions and do those tasks much faster than the free version.

Whether you use HDClone or another backup drive it's a good idea to back up your work daily, either to an external drive or offsite with such programs as Carbonite or SugarSynch. I use both, which should tell you how seriously I take backing up. Oh yeah, and I back up my crucial data to a portable USB drive. And an external drive. Which probably means—thankfully—that should a crash occur, I have my seat belt firmly fastened.

Other educational, business and utility programs can be found at my website: www.washingtoncd.net. E-mail: washed@washingtoncd.net

China's Internet population rises to 457 million

BEIJING (AP)—China's online population rose to 457 million in 2010 as use of mobile phones to surf the Web spread rapidly, an industry group reported Wednesday.

China's population of Internet users—a group more than 50 percent larger than the whole U.S. population—grew 19 percent in 2010 over the previous year, said the state-sanctioned China Internet Network Information Center.

The number of people surfing the Web by mobile phone jumped 29.6 percent over 2009 to 303 million, the group said.

The communist government actively

promotes Internet use for business and education, though it operates an extensive censorship system to block access to material it considers subversive or pornographic.

The number of people using online commerce and Internet entertainment services also grew rapidly in 2010, CNNIC said. It said the number of e-commerce customers rose 48.6 percent over 2009, though it gave no total.

China's rapid rise in Web use has been driven by economic growth that forecasters say was close to 10 percent last year following the country's rapid rebound from the global crisis.

Social media may just save email

Email's been the whipping boy for all things bad about business communication. That may change soon with help from an unlikely new friend.

IS EMAIL SEXY AGAIN?

In August, Google introduced Gmail Priority Inbox, a new feature that learns to identify your important email for you. Imagine, just the email you need right now, right in front of you.

Then in November Facebook announced a major messaging rethink. Facebook Messages will be a "modern messaging system" that unifies email, Facebook messages, chat and SMS in a single application. Like Google, Facebook also recognizes that some emails are more important than others. What's important for Facebook? Email from Friends of course. Non-Friend emails will side-step the Inbox and land in the "Other" folder.

Two new but very different takes on an old email effectiveness challenge: how to bring your important email forward.

EMAIL, FACEBOOK? BUT I USE OUTLOOK!!

Yes, at work we all do, and like most other business email users you too might be wondering how these and other social developments affect you.

As for highlighting important email, don't expect help from Microsoft anytime soon. While Outlook excels as an email program, it's the Outlook add-in market we look to for productivity automation. On the social front there is hope. Outlook 2010 includes a Social Connector feature for passive awareness. A good start.

WHAT'S SOCIAL GOT TO DO WITH BUSINESS? WHY NOW?

In case you are inclined to dismiss social communication and its tools as only for younger generations (or to use when not at work), I challenge you to consider that our interactions at work couldn't be more social. Email is often awkward and too formal in our social world of business. That these emerging social tools better handle it outside of email, and in a complementary way to email, is now a re-defining opportunity for email, and for you. Read on to learn how.

THREE INDISPUTABLE EMAIL TRUTHS

To better understand how social media can help email, let's be up front about what we all now know to be true.

Truth #1—Email doesn't do social. An asynchronous medium, email fails us for communications requiring real-time back and forth, discussions, emotionally sensitive issues, and urgent matters.

Truth #2—Email is for the keepers. Emails to set meetings and interim updates are annoying. In contrast, we like and want to keep emails that contain (1) information to do our jobs with colleagues and clients, and (2) external information like e-newsletters that keep us informed.

Truth #3—Email is the world's most popular business information system. Surprised? Where does your most

By **TOM GIBSON**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Tom is principal trainer for Slipstream Advantage Group. He coaches busy professionals and trains companies in the new ways to manage email. Contact Tom at SlipstreamAdvantageGroup.com.



important business information reside? Many haven't noticed, but with automatic sorting and browsing tools, vastly improved searching and cheap disk space all converging, email now rocks as a way to manage your information.

THREE WAYS TO UP YOUR EMAIL GAME

1. USE SMS & CHAT FOR THROW-AWAY EMAILS

Your first surprise may come when you notice people who are unresponsive via email often respond quickly to your text (SMS) messages. And you'll find chat surprisingly effective for clarifying things in quick Q&A sessions. It's easy to set up free accounts.

Is it professional? Absolutely, when used appropriately. You'll see rapid and broad uptake of these tools this year. For your team, consider Yammer, a social networking product designed specifically for internal communications. Either way, start with those you communicate with most, and you'll soon enjoy correspondingly fewer emails.

2. SEPARATE OUT YOUR IMPORTANT EMAIL

When helping clients we look to see how many newsletters they receive. If just a handful, Outlook's Rules feature can handle the job. For more, we recommend Nelson Email Organizer, an Outlook add-in that separates correspondent (important) mail from bulk mail that can be read later.

3. KEEP ALL THE OUTLOOK EMAILS YOU WANT

People who work hard deleting email and religiously file to folders may feel efficient, when in fact they're stuck in old ways. The trend today is to email less but save more of it, and find it using new browsing & searching technologies instead of filing.

We help shift people into the new ways. For many, improving their workflow and how they use Outlook is just what's needed. For those managing many external relationships, more is needed. Nelson Email Organizer has its own version of "friends"—it puts all email (sent and received) from each person you correspond with into automatically-created NEO virtual folders. It makes it easy to browse to any email you need.

For those who just want to improve on Outlook's search, X1 or NEO Find can be a great fit.

CAN SOCIAL MEDIA REALLY SAVE EMAIL? Not entirely. But increasingly it will take over the social exchanges email is poor at. Then email programs can do what they do best—manage the information we all need to better do our jobs.

Life & Style

A jazzy all-American state dinner for Chinese prez

WASHINGTON (AP)—Michelle and Barack Obama welcomed a mix of Hollywood A-listers, big business types and prominent Chinese-Americans to the White House as they threw a “quintessentially American” state dinner Wednesday for the president of China, complete with apple pie and ice cream, and jazz music for the entertainment.

The first lady was clad in an elegant red shoulder-baring gown that swished around her in soft folds and the president sported a tuxedo as they welcomed Chinese President Hu Jintao on a red carpet on the White House portico. An honor guard stood at attention behind them.

Celebrity star power arrived in the form of singer Barbra Streisand, her hubby-actor James Brolin and action film star Jackie Chan. Big business turned out in force, too, including Microsoft's Steven Ballmer and JPMorgan Chase's Jamie Dimon, among others. Among the big names: fashion's Vera Wang, Vogue's Anna Wintour, artist Maya Lin, Olympic figure skater Michelle Kwan, and Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer to add some gravitas. Former presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter made the cut, too.

Wang wore a floor-length, sleeveless design of her own. Wintour opted for a white, patterned Chanel skirt suit.

The dinner's all-star jazz lineup included trumpeter Chris Botti, two-time Grammy Award-winning vocalist Dee Dee Bridgewater, jazz icon Herbie Hancock, rising pianist Lang Lang and four-time Grammy-winning vocalist Dianne Reeves.

Jazz pianist Peter Martin, part of the entertainment lineup, prepped for his appearance by springing for a tux.

“I’m finally a grown-up,



President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama greet China's President Hu Jintao at the North Portico of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2011.

graduated from renting to owning,” Martin tweeted, adding that he was “super-excited” about the White House gig.

Regular folks who find themselves in a last-minute frenzy before guests arrive can take comfort in knowing that it's the same at the White House: Hours before the dinner, chair cushions were stacked in the front foyer and harried staff shuttled flower arrangements to and fro.

New this state dinner: The 225 guests were spread out among three rooms: the State Dining Room, Blue Room and Red Room, then all shuttle to the East Room for the entertainment. Big video monitors were set up in the Blue and Red rooms for the outcasts to catch the dinner toasts.

The two presidents' toasts featured the usual promises

of better relations all around, and Obama used the moment to highlight an agreement that will ensure the beloved giant pandas from China remain at the Smithsonian National Zoo for another five years.

Also new: The Obamas opted against bringing in a high-profile guest chef, instead putting White House Executive Chef Cristeta Comerford in charge of preparing an all-American themed dinner at the request of the Chinese delegation, the White House said.

On the menu: d'anjou pear salad with farmstead goat cheese, poached Maine lobster, orange glazed carrots and black trumpet mushrooms, dry aged rib eye with buttermilk crisp onions, double-stuffed potatoes and creamed spinach. Dessert was to be old-fashioned apple

pie with vanilla ice cream.

Obama is known to be an avid eater of pastry chef Bill Yosses' pies.

Streisand, who also made the guest list for an afternoon luncheon at the State Department, said she was appearing at her first state dinner since the Clinton years. The singer, who helped raise money for Obama during the presidential campaign, said she had “a lot of friends here.”

Asked for a thought on why she had been invited, she quipped: “I worked in a Chinese restaurant.”

Wintour said she hoped to talk to Hu about—what else?—

fashion, specifically investing in Chinese fashion.

There were some high-profile no-shows, including three of the top four leaders of Congress: House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, who declined Obama's past state dinner invitations; Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.; and Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader.

With the Senate out of session, Reid was home in Nevada and McConnell just wrapped up a congressional trip to Afghanistan and Pakistan and had not planned to be in Washington this week, aides said.

House Democratic leader

Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., was the only top congressional leader to accept an invitation. Many in Congress see China as an economic threat to the U.S. Pelosi also has been a longtime and outspoken critic of China's human rights record.

At a White House news conference with Obama, Hu punted when asked to comment on the congressional leaders' absence.

“I think President Obama is certainly in a better position to answer that question,” he said, drawing laughter from journalists and the U.S. and China officials seated in the East Room.

Obama punted, too.

Huffington Post to add African-American section

NEW YORK (AP)—The Huffington Post and BET co-founder Sheila Johnson are launching a HuffPost section devoted to African-Americans.

The section, “HuffPost GlobalBlack,” is expected to debut in early March. The Huffington Post is set to make an official announcement about the new platform Thursday.

“Our goal is to cover more stories of importance to the black community,” says Arianna Huffington, the co-founder and editor-in-chief of the New York-based Huffington Post. “We have the supreme irony of having the first African-American president, which is such a historic event and a milestone, while at

the same time, conditions for African-Americans are deteriorating, in terms of unemployment, in terms of high school graduation, in terms of the number of African-American males in prisons,” Huffington says.

GlobalBlack is the 27th section for the Huffington Post, but its first racially based one. It plans to soon launch a Latino section.

A February 2010 survey by Edison Research and Arbitron found that about 25 percent of all Twitter users are black, roughly double the percentage of blacks in the U.S. population. About 11 percent of all U.S. Facebook users are black, the social-networking site reports.

A greater percentage of whites than blacks and Latinos have broadband access at home, but laptop ownership is now about even for all these groups.

“In all of this digital space, the African-American voice is really falling off the radar screen,” says Johnson, who sold the Washington D.C.-based Black Entertainment Television to Viacom in 2000. “We’re on other radar screens, with other digital sites, which is wonderful. But I really wanted to bring the real news, the storytelling—to really bring back the voice of the black community on some relevant news and views.”

“We’re going to be able to fill that void,” Johnson adds.

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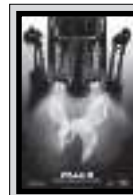
No Strings Attached

Friday 4:05 7:05 9:45
 Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:45
 Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
 Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05

Natalie Portman, Ashton Kutcher
 Comedy • Rated R

Synopsis

Natalie Portman plays Emma Franklin, a doctor who's not really looking for love and is not ready for a relationship because of time issues and just wants to have someone to have sex with. She decided to have sex with her friend, Adam Kurtzman played by Ashton Kutcher. Things get complicated when a plain sexual relationship is mixed up with emotions. Adam falls for Emma and the problem arises when the feeling is not mutual.



The Green Hornet

Friday 4:00 7:00 9:30
 Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30
 Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:30
 Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00

Seth Rogen, Cameron Diaz
 Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

By day, Britt Reid (Seth Rogen) is a millionaire publisher and popular media figure, but by night, Reid assumes the identity of fearless crime fighter The Green Hornet and teams with his trusted sidekick, Kato (Stephen Chow), to keep the streets safe for average citizens. Producer Neal H. Moritz spearheads this big-screen adaptation of the popular radio serial, comic book, film, and television series originated by Lone Ranger creators Fran Striker and George W. Trendle.



Gulliver's Travels

Friday 4:30 7:30 9:55
 Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:55
 Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30
 Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:30

Jack Black, Emily Blunt
 Comedy, Fantasy • Rated PG

Synopsis

Jack Black stars in the 20th Century Fox adaptation of Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels with this fantasy-filled comedic production. This take on the timeless tale revolves around a shipwrecked journalist (Black) who discovers an island in the heart of the Bermuda Triangle where he is the biggest occupant in comparison to its tiny inhabitants. Shark Tale's Rob Letterman directs from a script by Forgetting Sarah Marshall's Nick Stoller and Joe Stillman (Shrek).



Season Of The Witch

Friday 4:10 7:10 9:50
 Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:50
 Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
 Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:10

Nicolas Cage, Ron Perlman
 Thriller • Rated PG 13



Little Fockers

Friday 4:20 7:20 9:40
 Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:40
 Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
 Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:20

Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller
 Comedy • Rated PG 13



True Grit

Friday 4:25 7:25 9:35
 Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:35
 Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
 Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:25

Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon
 Western • Rated PG 13



The Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader

Friday 4:15 7:15 10:00
 Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:00
 Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
 Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:15

Georgie Henley, Ben Barnes
 Fantasy, Children's, Family • Rated PG

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Grieving mom gets no respite from well-meaning friends

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My adult son passed away nine months ago. I am mostly numb. My home has always been welcoming, and I have had friends and family here constantly—but now they won't leave! They don't seem to "get" the fact that I need some time to be alone.



Dear Abby

I love these people, but my heart is broken. The only person I want to see and spend time with is my surviving son. I have lost my enthusiasm for almost everything. I work full time and no longer want to be the "hostess." I am TIRED. My sons and I were close, and I raised them by myself.

How do I tell my friends and family members that I need to be alone without offending them? I want to do the right thing.

HEARTBROKEN IN CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. I'm sure your friends and family care deeply about you and are only trying to be there for you.

However, you need to heal as best as you can in your own way from the death of your son. Thank them for their constant support, and explain that you need some time to be alone and cope with this without a crowd around. They will understand.

Working your way through the grieving process can be exhausting. But if your "tiredness" persists, I'm advising you to discuss it with your doctor because it can be a symptom of chronic depression, which is a medical condition.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm a friendly, outgoing cashier at a grocery store. I enjoy chatting with customers. I particularly like some of them and look forward to them coming in. The problem is what I should do when they ask me for personal information, like my phone number or Facebook information.

In the last month, two customers asked to be my friends on Facebook and one asked for my phone number. I don't feel comfortable sharing this information with them. It's important for me to have a private life kept separate from my work life.

What is a polite way to let them know I don't want to give out that information?

FACEBOOK-UNFRIENDLY IN LOVELAND, COLO.

DEAR FACEBOOK-UNFRIENDLY: Smile at the customer and, in your usual upbeat, friendly way, say: "You know, I think you are very nice—but I keep my work life and personal life separate. I never mix the two. But thanks for asking." Period.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My 12-year-old daughter, "Sophia," repeatedly shirks her basic responsibilities. She routinely receives detention for not completing homework assignments and for failing to bring required materials to class. Despite my concern, Sophia continues with her usual shortcomings. This is causing a great deal of stress between us, and our relationship is now very poor. Should I keep pushing her or should I just allow her to fail?

DISAPPOINTED MOM IN LOUISIANA

DEAR DISAPPOINTED MOM: Of course you shouldn't allow your daughter to fail. All mothers have to "push" sometimes. It goes with the territory. However, rather than letting it drive you and your daughter apart, talk with her teacher and see if she or he can give you some insight as to what's going on. If that doesn't help, then consult Sophia's pediatrician. The girl may have a neurological problem that's causing her behavior.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Hathaway to play Catwoman in new Batman movie

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Anne Hathaway has clawed her way into the latest Batman movie, nabbing the role of Selina Kyle and her alter ego, Catwoman.

Warner Bros. announced the casting Wednesday for Christopher Nolan's latest film in the superhero saga, "The Dark Knight Rises." Hathaway will

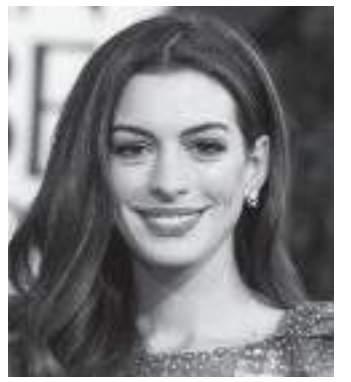
appear opposite Christian Bale, who's returning as Bruce Wayne and Batman.

The studio also announced that Tom Hardy, whom Nolan directed in last year's "Inception," will play one of Batman's enemies, Bane. "The Dark Knight Rises" is slated for release on July 20, 2012.

Hathaway, an Oscar nominee for 2008's "Rachel Getting Married," will co-host the Academy Awards with James Franco on Feb. 27.

n this Jan. 16, 2011 file photo, Anne Hathaway arrives at the Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP



'Glee,' '30 Rock,' 'Howl' among GLAAD nominees



AP

Producer Ryan Murphy, left, joins actor Chris Colfer, both of television's "Glee," hold their awards at the Fox party following the Golden Globe Awards Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation is honoring movies, musicians TV shows and other media properties that offer fair and inclusive representations of the gay community.

GLAAD announced nominees Thursday for its

22nd annual Media Awards, which will be presented during a series of ceremonies in the spring.

Film nominees include the lesbian family drama "The Kids Are All Right," the musical "Burlesque," high-school romp "Easy A," crime thriller "The Girl Who Played With Fire" and the video-game-inspired "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World."

TV drama series nominated for telling stories about the gay community are: ABC's "Grey's Anatomy" and "Brothers & Sisters," HBO's "True Blood," ABC Family's "Pretty Little Liars" and TeenNick's "Degrassi."

Comedy series nominees are: Showtime's "Nurse Jackie" and "United States of Tara," Fox's "Glee," ABC's "Modern Family" and ABC Family's "Greek."

Individual episodes of "30 Rock," "Drop Dead Diva," "Bored to Death" and "Law & Order" were also nominated.

Chely Wright and Scissor Sisters are among nominees in the music category.

GLAAD also honors theater performances, comic books, blogs, talk shows, documentaries, newspaper and magazine articles and reality shows.

A complete list of nominees can be found on GLAAD's website.

Ricky Gervais to appear on NBC's 'The Office'

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC says Ricky Gervais will make a cameo appearance on "The Office" next week, reprising the role he played in the original British version that he helped create.

NBC said Wednesday that Gervais' brief appearance on Jan. 27 will be as David Brent. That's the smart-alecky paper salesman who inspired the char-

acter of Michael Scott, portrayed by Steve Carell on NBC's successful adaptation of the comedy.

Gervais, who caused a stir as the insult-slinging host of the Golden Globes earlier this week, serves as an executive producer of NBC's "The Office." It airs Thursdays at 9 p.m. ET.

Gervais' appearance was first reported on the TV Line website.



Gervais

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

'American Idol' returns, with J.Lo but not Cowell

NEW YORK (AP)—It's a kinder "American Idol" without Simon Cowell. Television's top show returned Wednesday with a makeover for its 10th season on Fox. Cowell, everyone's favorite villain, is gone as a judge. So are Kara DioGuardi and Ellen DeGeneres. There's star power in Jennifer Lopez and Aerosmith's Steven Tyler replacing them. Original judge Randy Jackson remains. At the start the new "Idol" concentrated on the positive. The first three contestants shown made it through to Hollywood. J.Lo in particular had a difficult time becoming J-No. She seemed in agony the first time she was shown rejecting a contestant. She complained: "Oh, my God, I hate this! Why did I sign up for this? I want to go home." She got up to hug a contestant who was crying upon meeting her.

Meryl Streep visits UK Parliament for 'Iron Lady'

LONDON (AP)—Meryl Streep has visited London's House of Commons before her

next role as Margaret Thatcher in the Hollywood movie "The Iron Lady." The Oscar-winning actress turned up Wednesday at a visitor's gallery to watch the weekly Prime Minister's Questions, where David Cameron takes questions from lawmakers. A few lawmakers wrote on Twitter to announce that they had spotted the actress. "The Iron Lady" is currently in pre-production. Jim Broadbent is due to play Thatcher's husband Denis and Richard E. Grant will play former Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine.

DA: Review of Gibson criminal case ongoing

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles' district attorney says a review of domestic violence allegations against Mel Gibson is ongoing after a meeting between prosecutors and the actor's attorneys. The statement by District Attorney Steve Cooley didn't indicate when prosecutors will decide whether to pursue charges against the Academy Award winner. Gibson's ex-girlfriend, Oksana Grigorieva claims the actor-director struck her during a fight in January 2010. Cooley

says Gibson's attorneys presented information about the accusations during Tuesday's meeting. His statement didn't address Gibson's allegations that Grigorieva attempted to extort him. The former couple have been locked in a bitter custody dispute over their infant daughter for months.

'Piers Morgan' 2nd airing draws about 1.3M viewers

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN says "Piers Morgan Tonight" drew nearly 1.3 million viewers for its second airing. It dropped sharply from Monday's premiere, when nearly 2.1 million viewers saw Morgan sitting down with Oprah Winfrey. CNN said Wednesday that Tuesday's program built on the premiere's 25-to-54 demographic and led among cable-news talk shows at that hour. It featured an interview with radio jock Howard Stern. In total viewers, the program ranked second, behind Fox News Channel's "Hannity" and slightly ahead of MSNBC's "The Rachel Maddow Show." "Piers Morgan Tonight" airs weeknights on CNN at 9 p.m. Eastern.

MTV plans online award show for digital music

NEW YORK (AP)—To suit an altered music landscape, MTV is planning an untraditional award show celebrating digital music.

The network says it's prepping an as-yet unnamed, multiplatform award show for April or May that will exult digital music and its many varied incarnations.

The exact nature of the show hasn't yet been defined, but MTV says it will be a "multiscreen experience," including the Internet, social media and mobile—but not broadcast. Categories for awards haven't been determined, but they'll include things like best app, best blog, best Internet feud, best music meme of the year and best Kanye West tweet.

MTV hopes the show will do for digital music what its Video Music Awards did for the music video.

Van Toffler, president of MTV Networks Music and Logo Group, calls the planned show "an interactive musical mess" to celebrate both "the cool and the geekdom."

"It will be sloppy," Toffler says. "It will be interactive. It will be customizable. It will be fun and unexpected. Most shows on television are about what's popular, and I think this will be about what's bubbling up."

Toffler says he's unsure if the show will have a host or even a definable beginning and end. It could be anywhere from one to six hours long, he says, and won't be polished or linear like traditional award shows. Performances will be a central component.

The two flagship MTV award shows—the Video Music Awards (launched in 1984) and the Movie Awards (launched in 1992)—have defined themselves as looser, more youthful and more unpredictable alternatives to the established award programs.

MTV, which is part of the Viacom-owned MTV Networks, hopes to bring that ethos to digital music and, as Toffler says, "let the chaos run free."

The show represents another step in MTV's strategy of becoming increasingly "platform agnostic." It has put ever-increasing focus on its Web properties: MTV.com, CMT.com and VH1.com account for some 60 million unique visitors a month.

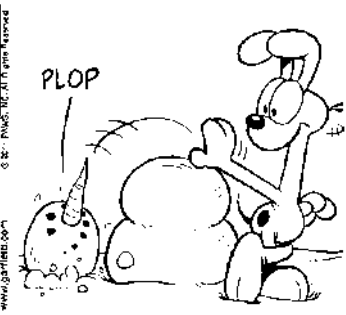
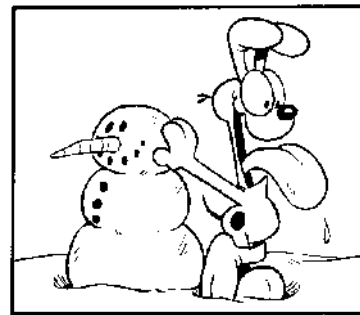
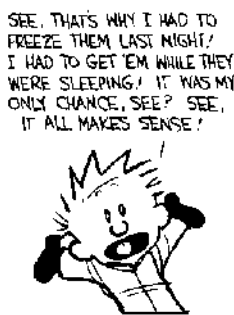
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

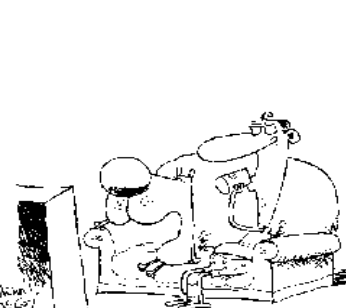


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Cornfield comment
4 However
7 Nerdy sort
12 Historic period
13 Eventual aves
14 Heart line
15 Benicio — Toro
16 Mention-ables?
18 Pismire
19 Fire
20 Bronx cheer
22 Schedule abbr.
23 Bean curd
27 Type measures
29 Hand-some lad
31 "Survivor" team
34 Phantom's balliwick
35 Fireplace part
37 Modern-day evidence
38 Sicilian spouter
39 Carte intro

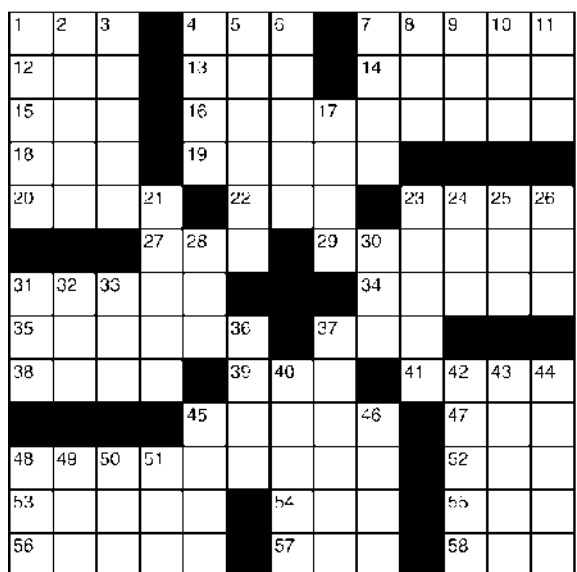
DOWN

41 Region
45 Donkey's sounds
47 Transmit electronically
48 Flotation device
52 "A pox upon thee!"
53 Go
54 Rule, for short
55 Listener
56 Worked (up)
57 Fuss
58 Banned bug spray
1 Fragrant wood
2 Sports venue
3 Ballroom favorite
4 Nitwit
5 Palatal pendants
6 Turkic tongue
7 Challenge
8 "Holy mackerel!"
9 Before
10 Seventh letter
11 Tavern
17 Poet Pound
21 Marty, in "Madagascar"
23 November birthstone
24 Inseparable
25 Ever-green type
26 "— Today"
28 Profit
30 Dress in
31 Common est
32 On Soc. Sec.
33 Writer Fleming
36 Rodgers collaborator
37 Convertible sofa
40 First lady after Hillary
42 Slain, gangster style
43 Water nymph
44 Put forth, as strength
45 Raised Lily variety
46 Sort
48 Born
49 Aye opponent
51 Leading lady?

Solution time: 25 mins.

F	M	U	S	A	S	H	S	T	A	R
C	O	P	U	G	L	E	M	O	P	E
L	P	S	T	E	A	M	O	U	S	T
T	A	B	M	A	J	O	R	E	D	
F	A	X	E	N	N	U	T			
I	O	G	T	O	W	S	H	U	N	S
U	S	E	D		D	A	B	S	P	A
B	E	D	I	M	S	A	C	O	P	A
Q	A	F	H	O	O	R	A	Y		
F	I	C	C	L	O	B	E	A		
F	R	F	U	P	E	A	R	D	I	Y
C	O	S	K	E	E	L	E	Y	E	
K	N	E	E	D	I	T	D	E	W	

Yesterday's answer 1-21



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: IZABELLA MIKO, 30; EMMA BUNTON, 35; HAKEEM OLAJUNWON, 48; GEENA DAVIS, 55

Happy Birthday: You must question your reasoning and your decisions, especially if they have to do with personal or professional partnerships. Asking significant questions will save you a bundle emotionally and financially, so don't fear being a little forward. Relationships must be handled properly if you want to end up in a winning situation. Your numbers are 4, 10, 16, 23, 32, 34, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't stop believing in yourself. You have plenty to offer but will also attract critics. As long as you are happy, nothing else really matters. Love is apparent, so socialize with upbeat people who love you. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Communications will be your strong point and will help you excel and accomplish your goals. Avoid overspending. Emotional deception can be expected from someone you trust. Don't be too upfront about the way you feel. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A new year has just begun and starting it out on the right foot will make a difference as time goes by. Focus on how you can make your home more user-friendly. There is plenty to think about but action is what's required. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You cannot trust your emotions. Self-deception may interfere with sound judgment. A change may not be welcome but is probably overdue. Before you fight whatever is coming down the pipeline, consider both sides of the coin. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Look on the bright side and you'll attract positive people to help you achieve your goals. The way you present your plans will determine how much you accomplish. Now is the time to motivate and inspire those around you to join in. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Getting involved in social events or challenging activities will result in satisfaction and a sense of being not only valuable but somewhat invincible. Idle time will lead to conflict and emotional upset. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't pay too much attention to the people in your life who are whining or being critical and unreasonable. Surround yourself with those interested in accomplishment. Life is a journey and it's up to you to enjoy it. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You have lots of opportunities but, if you waste your time listening to those being negative, you will miss out on something that can be fun, encouraging and will get you all charged up about your future. A past experience will help you make the right choice. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There is nothing wrong with a day trip or planning a vacation but, before you commit, make sure you can afford to go. There are plenty of ways to alter your surroundings without going into debt. You will upset someone you are indebted to if you don't include him or her in your plans. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll feel the limitations and frustra-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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tions brought on by taking care of someone else's responsibilities. Say "no" if you want to spare yourself the aggravation of dealing with someone who is constantly taking advantage of your kind heart and generosity. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Discipline may be required if you want to avoid someone or something that is off limits. Your aggressive behavior will send the wrong impression. It's up to you to act fast but responsibly. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Revel in your accomplishments but not without laying out the plans for future goals. There are more people counting on you than you realize, so be responsible and reliable. Don't let someone's insincere gestures lead you astray. ★★★

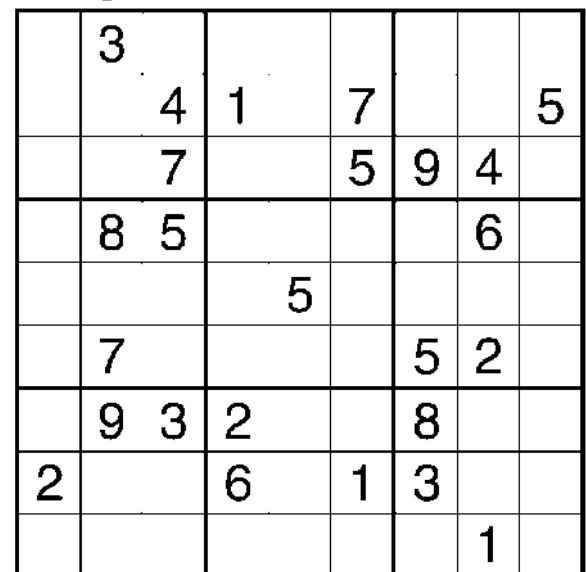
Birthday Baby: You dance to your own beat and you set standards for others to follow. You always do your best. You play to win and are unique.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

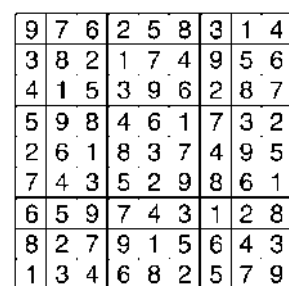


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

1/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

1/21

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

PATENT APPLICATIONS

Solution: 9 letters

C N T Y E N R O T T A A C Y E
F O G N I T I R W S O P L Y C
S I N S A E D I S D E P L M I
A T N T E R S I E P M C V R T
S C A A E E G T Y O A I O O
W A C T L N F R C C C C E F N
A I O U E A T T I A L A W G O
L V L D R S C N N G A T O N I
L A O D E A O A A C I I B I T
A I R R R R R I S C I M O I G A
G U I T T U H E E I I N A A G
E A S C R T P L S A L O I K I
L B E A N T H T A T R B N C T
A L L O W A N C E O E C U A I
E E M A R K E T I N G D H P L

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Yesterday's Answer: Trust

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Nets owner tells team to drop Anthony deal



NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Cross another superstar off the New Jersey Nets' wish list, and let the pursuit of Carmelo Anthony begin anew.

The megadeal to bring Anthony to New Jersey ended in stunning fashion on Wednesday night when Nets owner Mikhail Prokhorov told the team to end the long, drawn-out trade talks with the Denver Nuggets.

"There comes a time when the price is simply too expensive," Prokhorov said in a news conference before the Nets faced the Utah Jazz. "I am instructing our team to walk away from the deal."

In the past two weeks, the talks had taken on a soap-opera feeling and the Russian billionaire felt it had hurt his team.

"Really, I am not happy with the way the deal has gone until now," said Prokhorov, who fielded questions in English and Russian. "It has taken too long. It has been played out in public. The uncertainty has taken a toll on the players ... and I believe it has cost us several games."

The Nets have lost six straight, including all four on a just-completed West Coast road trip that ended in Oakland on Monday.

Prokhorov also canceled a planned meeting with Anthony on Thursday and said there was no chance—that's a big nyet—that the trade would be resurrected.

Denver general manager Masai Ujiri declined to answer questions about the Nets' decision, beyond saying the Nuggets

have been in talks "with plenty of teams" regarding Anthony and insisting he harbored no ill will toward the Nets for calling off talks.

Nuggets coach George Karl said he wasn't surprised that Prokhorov pulled the plug on this deal.

"I think I've been one of the guys who have been kind of hinting to you that this is a lot farther away from happening than you all think it's going to be," Karl said. "But we've got a fun game, a hell of a team to play against tonight ... and I'm more excited about that than my billionaire friend from Russia kind of throwing another curveball or knuckleball into the process."

"If it's true, it's true. If it isn't true, it isn't true," Karl added. "If it's a ploy in the negotiation, that's for the guys upstairs to figure out."

There were reports Wednesday that Anthony's representatives had let the Nuggets know that the 26-year-old forward was interested in playing for the Chicago Bulls. Houston and the Knicks also have been mentioned in trade talks involving Anthony.

The deal between the Nets, Nuggets and Detroit Pistons was huge in name power and the number of players.

New Jersey had offered to ship six players and at least two first-round draft picks to Denver in a three-team deal that would have sent Anthony to the Nets along with former Pistons teammates Chauncey Billups and Richard Hamilton.

Prokhorov decided Tuesday to end talks with the Nuggets, and general manager Billy King



Mikhail Prokhorov, owner of the New Jersey Nets, talks to reporters before an NBA basketball game between the Nets and the Utah Jazz, Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2011, in Newark, N.J.

said he informed them via a text message as Prokhorov was speaking on Wednesday.

Prokhorov said the Nets received permission from Denver to talk with Anthony on Monday night, but he never spoke to the All-Star forward.

"Maybe he sent me an e-mail but I never use computer, that's why, maybe, I missed it or maybe carrier pigeon got lost," Prokhorov said.

Since Prokhorov took over the team last year, the Nets have tried

but failed to land a superstar.

Prokhorov personally led the Nets' delegation in free agency talks with LeBron James, Chris Bosh and Dwyane Wade in July, and he said the decision to pursue Anthony since the start of training camp was purely based on basketball.

However, Prokhorov showed he didn't make billions waiting for other people to make decisions. When he got fed up, he said enough.

"I am not ready to overpay,"

Prokhorov said. "As soon as you make a mistake, you can wait for the next chance for the next five or six years. That's why I prefer to be really patient."

Prokhorov even showed a touch of sarcasm when asked if King tried to talk him out of the decision.

"I am not sure that Billy King knows," he said with a wry smile.

King, who was hired to replace Rod Thorn in the offseason, said the Nets and Nuggets never reached an agreement at any time during the negotiations.

"I am not disappointed at all," King said. "It's been a long process. In all my years, 16 years in the NBA, I have never seen anything like this."

King said he came close to calling off the deal himself during the talks.

"There were times in my mind I wrestled with the same idea, because you get to a point where you say enough is enough," said King, who said he was frustrated by "everything" in the talks.

The coverage of the proposed trade has dominated league news for weeks, with many wondering whether the three-team trade would ever get done, or whether Anthony would agree to sign a three-year, \$65 million contract extension that was a must for New Jersey to make the deal.

What has made the situation so interesting is the deal involved eight players on the Nets and perhaps 15 players on the three teams.

"I think every player on our roster was mentioned in some way expect Brook (Lopez)," King said. "There comes a point

in time where they have to focus. It is their job, but they have families and they read or hear things that may or may not be true and that's what I care about."

King planned to talk to the players on Thursday about moving forward, saying the situation took a toll on the team.

The proposed deal had New Jersey sending point guard Devin Harris, rookie power forward Derrick Favors, the third draft pick overall, guards Anthony Morrow, Quinton Ross and Ben Uzoh, swingman Stephen Graham and at least two first-round draft picks to Denver.

Besides Anthony and Billups, the Nuggets would've sent Shelden Williams and Terrico White, who is injured, to the Nets. The Pistons would've received veteran Troy Murphy and center Johan Petro for Hamilton. Murphy has a \$12 million contract that will expire after this season.

King said Murphy has asked to be traded and will be allowed to stay home until a deal is finalized.

King called the seemingly never-ending talks on a Melo deal a perfect storm, with the Nuggets and Nets both dealing with new ownerships and managements.

"There is no blame for anyone," he said. "We all worked hard to get a deal done, we just couldn't get one."

King added Nets will now move on.

"This is not like the Titanic, this happens and the ship sinks," King said, adding the Nets' have five first-rounds picks in the next two years and plenty of cap space.

Mavericks break through with win over Lakers

DALLAS (AP)—Jason Kidd and the Dallas Mavericks both broke out of slumps to beat the Los Angeles Lakers 109-100 in the NBA on Wednesday.

Kidd was 1-for-14 in shooting over the previous two games but went 8-for-12 to notch a season-high 21 points, while Jason Terry and Shawn Marion provided 22 points each from the bench.

The club made a similar turnaround, going from five straight losses by at least 10 points each—their worst such stretch since their woeful days in the mid-1990s—to a convincing win over the two-time defending champions.

Nuggets 112, Thunder 107

In Denver, Carmelo Anthony scored 35 points to help Denver down Oklahoma City, hours after New Jersey Nets owner Mikhail Prokhorov announced he would no longer pursue the All-Star forward.

Chauncey Billups and Nene each added 16 points for the

Nuggets, who grabbed the lead for good early in the fourth quarter of a game that was close all the way.

Spurs 104, Raptors 95

In San Antonio, the hosts rallied from an 11-point halftime deficit to beat Toronto and record their seventh straight victory.

DeJuan Blair had 22 points and 11 rebounds while Manu Ginobili added 23 points for the Spurs, who improved their NBA-best record to 36-6, their best ever after 42 games.

Celtics 86, Pistons 82

In Boston, Ray Allen hit a jump shot with 25 seconds left to give Boston its first lead of the second half as the Celtics beat Detroit.

Paul Pierce scored 22 points for the Celtics, who won their fourth straight.

Rodney Stuckey scored 15 points for the Pistons, who led by eight with 8 minutes left but did not score over the game's last 2:43.

Hornets 103, Grizzlies 102, OT

In New Orleans, Marcus Thornton broke up an inbounds pass with 14 seconds left in overtime and then finished a fast break with a reverse layup, giving New Orleans a thrilling home win over Memphis, extending its winning streak to six.

Chris Paul had 20 points and 12 assists, and corralled the critical loose ball that was tipped by both Thornton and Trevor Ariza. Paul then raced up court and passed to Emeka Okafor, who bounced a pass to Thornton under the hoop.

Magic 99, 76ers, 98, OT

In Orlando, Jason Richardson converted a 4-point play with 17 seconds left as Orlando pipped Philadelphia in overtime.

Dwight Howard scored 18 points before fouling out late in regulation for the Magic, who survived another slow start and spotty defense with some big late baskets.

Lou Williams led Philadelphia with 19 points.

Rockets 104, Knicks 89

In Houston, the hosts handed New York its fourth straight loss.

Kevin Martin scored 21 points and Chuck Hayes grabbed 12 rebounds for the Rockets, who rode a hot shooting start to their sixth straight home win over the Knicks.

Amare Stoudemire scored 25, but also gave away five turnovers for New York, who shot 42 percent (35 of 83), scored only 39 points after halftime and were held almost 19 points under their league-leading scoring average (107.5 per game).

Nets 103, Jazz 95

In Newark, New Jersey, hours after owner Mikhail Prokhorov ended their long, drawn-out pursuit of Carmelo Anthony, New Jersey snapped a six-game losing skid by beating Utah.

Brook Lopez scored 11 of his 20 points in a big third quarter and the Nets seemed to relax

with the trade talk over.

New Jersey had a season-best seven players in double figures.

Warriors 110, Pacers 108

In Oakland, Monta Ellis made a jumper with less than a second remaining to give Golden State victory over Indiana.

Ellis scored 36 points for the Warriors, who matched their season high with their third straight victory. David Lee and Dorell Wright each added 21 points as Golden State beat the Pacers at home for the fifth straight time.

Trail Blazers 94, Kings 90, OT

In Sacramento, Nicolas Batum scored a season-high 24 points and LaMarcus Aldridge had 23 to lead Portland to an overtime victory against Sacramento.

The Blazers have won eight in a row against the Kings.

Beno Udrih scored 20 for the Kings, who and just returned home from a 1-5 road trip.

Suns 106, Cavaliers 98

In Cleveland, Phoenix made it

four straight wins by downing hapless Cleveland.

Grant Hill scored 27 points and Steve Nash had 15 points and 15 assists for the Suns.

Cleveland trimmed a 17-point deficit in the second half to three but couldn't get closer and lost its 14th straight game.

Bucks 100, Wizards 87

In Milwaukee, Washington's woeful road record was extended to 0-20 with a defeat by Milwaukee.

Keyon Dooling scored a season-high 23 points and Corey Maggette added 21 for the Bucks, who fought back from an early 12-point deficit despite missing injured starters Brandon Jennings, Carlos Delfino, and John Salmons.

Clippers 126, Timberwolves 111

In Los Angeles, Blake Griffin had 29 points and eight rebounds, ending his streak of double-doubles at 27 games, as Los Angeles overcame Minnesota.

The Timberwolves' Kevin Love had 26 points and 11 rebounds for his NBA-leading 29th straight double-double.

Nadal breezes into 3rd round at Aussie Open



MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Rafael Nadal extended his Grand Slam winning streak to 23 matches Thursday, beating American qualifier Ryan Sweeting 6-2, 6-1, 6-1 in the second round of the Australian Open.

The top-ranked Nadal is aiming to be the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 to hold all four Grand Slam titles at the same time. He's conceded only four games en route to the third round, sealing his win over Sweeting with the last of a blizzard of forehand winners.

After his quarterfinal exit at the last Australian Open, Nadal rebounded to win the French Open, Wimbledon and U.S. Open titles.

Nadal hit some shots that Sweeting could barely believe, including a curling forehand on set point in the second that caught the baseline. With nothing to lose, Sweeting challenged the call as he walked off. The call stood.

The only hint of anything other than complete domination for Nadal came in the third set, when Sweeting broke serve in the fifth game and got within a point of bringing it back to 4-2 in a game that went to deuce five times. But Nadal went on to the break and held serve to close it out.

"A few mistakes with the backhand, that's all. My serve improved a lot since the first day. I think I was serving very well today," Nadal said, noting the one blot on his serve was when he looked into the sun. "Movement good; backhand good; having a few more mistakes than usual. I have to play longer with the backhand. Maybe have to play a little



Spain's Rafael Nadal makes a forehand return to Ryan Sweeting of the U.S. during their second round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, Thursday, Jan. 20, 2011.

bit more aggressive, more inside the court."

That's not good news for Nadal's next opponent—18-year-old Australian wild-card entry Bernard Tomic.

Sweeting said he was overwhelmed by Nadal's relentless

accuracy and the fact he had to play so many shots just to earn a point.

Tomic, the last Australian male left in the draw, advanced with a 7-6 (4), 7-6 (3), 6-3 win over No. 31 Feliciano Lopez of Spain. Canada's Milos Ra-

onic also produced a second-round upset, beating No. 22 Michael Llodra of France 7-6 (3), 6-3, 7-6 (4).

Kim Clijsters posted another impressive win on the women's side, beating Carla Suarez Navarro 6-1, 6-3. U.S. Open

champion Clijsters opened with a 6-0, 6-0 win over former No. 1-ranked Dinara Safina, but Suarez Navarro was a potentially dangerous second-round matchup. The 22-year-old Spaniard beat Venus Williams in a second-round upset in her first trip to Melbourne Park two years ago.

"She is a tough player. She's tricky. The balls bounce so much different than for my first round," Clijsters said. "I was just happy with the way that I played. I tried to play both sides of the court, tried to be aggressive and dictate the points. And it worked."

With defending champion Serena Williams not playing in Australia due to a prolonged foot problem, third-seeded Clijsters is hopeful of going one better than her previous best performance at Melbourne Park—she lost the 2004 final.

It was at this same stage last year that Clijsters absorbed her worst loss in a major, a 6-0, 6-1 drubbing by Nadia Petrova. Clijsters said she doesn't dwell on the loss, and doesn't think it will influence her preparations for this weekend.

"I don't think I've ever played a match like that. So it was very easy in a way to also forget about it, as well," Clijsters said.

Also advancing from the bottom half of the draw were No. 10 Shahar Peer, No. 12 Agnieszka Radwanska, No. 13 Nadia Petrova and Iveta Benesova, who beat No. 18 Maria Kirilenko 6-3, 6-1.

Seventh-seeded Jelena Jankovic lost 7-6 (3), 6-3 to China's Peng Shuai, continuing an unimpressive streak of seven

losses in eight matches. It was former world No. 1 Jankovic's worst result at a major since the 2009 U.S. Open.

Meanwhile, Clijsters has spent just two hours on court so far, leaving plenty of time to joke with the crowd and take a little swipe at on-court interviewer Todd Woodbridge, a former Australian doubles great. She lightheartedly chided Woodbridge about a text message he'd sent to fellow Australian Rennae Stubbs, suggesting Clijsters was showing physical and emotional signs of being pregnant.

"No, I'm not!" said Clijsters, who took time off the tour when she married and had a child—daughter Jada, born in February 2008—before returning to win the U.S. Open in 2009.

While Clijsters and Nadal have advanced with ease, Venus Williams and defending men's champion Roger Federer have encountered challenges.

Williams injured a muscle between her stomach and groin Wednesday as she twisted for a volley. She needed a medical timeout after losing the first set. She was on the verge of tears, and apparently elimination. But she refused to stop playing and eventually beat Sandra Zahlavova of the Czech Republic 6-7 (6), 6-0, 6-4.

Federer faced a more familiar problem—Gilles Simon. He's one of only three men on tour with a winning record against the Swiss great.

The 16-time Grand Slam champion admitted he was "happy I survived a scare" after winning in five sets.

Derek Lamely leads Bob Hope Classic



LA QUINTA, Calif. (AP)—Even after Derek Lamely strung together the longest streak of birdies and eagles on the PGA Tour in nearly four years, he realized it's still very early in the Bob Hope Classic.

Lamely shot a 9-under 63 in the first round Wednesday, playing a six-hole stretch in 7 under to take a one-stroke lead over J.J. Henry and Jhonattan Vegas.

Although Lamely finished fiercely at the Palmer Private course, the second-year PGA Tour player knows first-round scores mean little in the tour's only five-day event over four fairly generous courses.

"This is going to be definitely not a sprint," Lamely said after finishing his round under picturesque conditions in the Palm Springs area. "The golf courses are perfect. The weather is just so good. You've just got to go out and stay aggressive every

hole. Hopefully you can get hot and make a bunch of putts, and I actually got that going today."

Lamely had five birdies and an eagle in his six-hole run for the best stretch on the PGA Tour since Brandt Snedeker strung together an 8-under, seven-hole roll in early 2007 at Torrey Pines.

The 30-year-old Lamely was the only American rookie to win last year, although the Puerto Rico Open was an opposite-field event. After making major changes to his grip and swing shortly before winning in Puerto Rico, his biggest goal this winter is to win again in time to qualify for the Masters.

"At the end of last year, I started hitting it good, and I've been hitting it better and better as it goes on," Lamely said. "I keep getting better at the few things I've changed, so it's finally getting to the point where I can think my way around and just make some putts."

Boo Weekley led a pack of

six at 65. The group includes Matt McQuillan, who only made it into the Hope field after Donnie Hammond withdrew Wednesday morning.

Henry holed a 132-yard wedge shot on his first hole at the Nicklaus Private course, but didn't get rolling until making six birdies in eight holes around the turn, finishing his season debut with his best round in seven career appearances at the Hope.

"I've probably never been this excited to start the year, both mentally and physically," Henry said. "I really felt refreshed and ready to go. (When) I got on the first hole, I had a perfect number with the wedge. You're a little nervous, haven't played a tournament in four months, and I hit this perfect shot that never left the flag."

Henry hasn't won a tournament since the 2006 Buick Championship, and hadn't played since the Deutsche Bank Championships, yet feels re-energized after tak-

ing most of the past four months off from golf while his oldest son started school.

Henry also used his fall free time to follow around his beloved TCU football team. Henry graduated from TCU in 1998, and he attended nearly all of the unbeaten Horned Frogs' games last season—including the Rose Bowl, which he watched from the sideline.

Vegas, the 26-year-old Venezuelan rookie, had an outstanding start to his fifth PGA Tour event, beating the previous best round of his short career by three strokes. He made the cut last week in the Sony Open in Hawaii, but still didn't get to finish after the field was further trimmed because of weather delays.

"I guess it was a little advantage not playing (in Hawaii) on Sunday, because I was able to get a flight Saturday night, and play this course on Sunday," Vegas said. "I actually got to see all four courses, which I think is huge for a rookie."

Super Bowl crowd in Texas could surpass 100,000



DALLAS (AP)—Super Bowl attendance could sur-

pass 100,000 for the first time in 24 years when \$1.3 billion Cowboys Stadium debuts as host on Feb. 6.

Not all of those fans will have seats, or even be able to see the game in front of them. Still, the NFL says it will count "several thousand" Cowboys season ticket-holders who pay \$200 each to watch a TV on an outdoor plaza on the east end of the stadium in suburban Arlington.

The plaza plan was a first for the Super Bowl, as was the league's intention to sell 350 standing-room-only tickets, presumably for areas on staircases with good views of the field, NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said on Wednesday.

"We have never done this before in part because other host stadiums did not have the structure in place," McCarthy wrote in an e-mail. "Fans with-

out tickets were not permitted on stadium grounds."

An estimated 93,000 fans will be inside the stadium. The last Super Bowl with more than 100,000 fans was in 1987 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. The record of 103,985 was set in 1980, also at the Rose Bowl.

The final number of seats inside the stadium and plaza tickets won't be known until closer to the game, McCarthy said.

Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones made no secret of his desire to set a Super Bowl record when the stadium opened a year and a half ago, although the issue was out of his hands since the NFL makes all decisions regarding game operations.

Since then, the Cowboys set the NFL record for a regular season game when 105,121 watched the visiting New York Giants play Dallas. A year ago, the NBA All-Star game drew 108,713, the most ever for a basketball game.

Cashman says Soriano was Hal's idea



NEW YORK (AP)—In a move mirroring those of his famous father, Yankees owner Hal Steinbrenner overruled general manager Brian Cashman in giving a \$35 million, three-year contract to Rafael Soriano.

Distancing himself from the decision after a news conference Wednesday to introduce Mariano Rivera's new setup man, Cashman said he didn't think it was worth playing closer money for a pitcher the team plans to use in the eighth inning.

And the general manager didn't want to lose his first-round pick in June's amateur draft, which will now go to Tampa Bay as compensation.

"I think it's certainly a sign that at times if Hal feels that he wants to go in a different direction, that could happen," Cashman said. "I think that's certainly the case. This is their team. Does that happen often? Will it happen a lot? I just think it depends on the circumstances."

Cashman stayed with the Yankees after the 2005 season, in part because Steinbrenner gave him increased authority over baseball operations and removed interference from other factions in the organization.

But George Steinbrenner turned control of the team over to Hal in November 2008, and the owner died last July at age 80.

Cashman's contract expires after this season.

"Ultimately Hal is in charge of making a final call and what he feels is the best direction at that time frame, and Hal made the call," Cashman said from the news conference room across from the Yankees' clubhouse.

"It's a part of business. This is Hal Steinbrenner and his family's franchise. This is not mine," he added. "It's never been, obviously, and you never want to make it feel like it is. I'm charged with making recommendations. There's a chain of command. It certainly was followed. This was not something that was done without me being aware of it. I had my say."

Agent Scott Boras, also at the news conference, said Yankees president Randy Levine negotiated for the team during conference calls that led to Soriano's contract, which allows the reliever to opt out after the 2011 or 2012 season. Levine and chief operating officer Lonn Trost were there, but not Hal Steinbrenner.

Soriano joins what appears to be a strong bullpen that includes right-handers Joba Chamberlain and David Robertson, and left-handers Pedro Feliciano and Boone Logan.

New York's rotation is far more problematic, with Andy Pettitte still leaning toward retirement. After CC Sabathia, Phil Hughes and A.J. Burnett,

New York has Ivan Nova and Sergio Mitre as the best options for the final two spots.

The Yankees could consider Detroit's Armando Galarraga, who was designated for assignment Tuesday and figures to be traded.

"We'll continue to try to address it," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "When you look at the situation that we are in with our starting rotation, it's important to shorten games."

Girardi thinks five innings could be enough distance from his starters, given the bullpen depth.

Soriano was an AL All-Star last year, when he had a league-leading 45 saves for Tampa Bay in his only year with the Rays. He gave up closing to become Rivera's understudy.

"I know that a lot of people will find this strange, but I'm very happy to be close to one of the greatest closers," Soriano said through a translator. "And hopefully in the future, I will after being a setup man, be a closer, too. I'm going to learn a lot from him."

Cashman said the Yankees will be a better team with Soriano. He just wasn't sure this was the wisest use of New York's money.

"Maybe I'm too patient, but I do believe that there's a lot of choices that eventually present themselves over time," he said. "We'd still have a tremendous team."

Twins bring back Pavano for 2 years, \$16.5M

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The mustache isn't going anywhere.

Carl Pavano and the Twins agreed on a \$16.5 million, two-year contract Wednesday night, ensuring the popular right-hander who made the 'stache cool again in Minnesota will be back to provide stability to the team's rotation.

Pavano had several offers on the table and surprisingly considered a return to the New York Yankees before ultimately deciding to stay with the club that helped the 35-year-old have a career resurgence in 2010.

"I'm excited," Pavano said on a conference call. "When you go through free agency, there's a lot of big decisions that you have. Obviously I couldn't walk away from the rapport I have with my teammates, the staff and the organization."

Pavano went 17-11 with a 3.75 ERA and seven complete games last season to help the Twins win the AL Central title. More impressive for him, he pitched 221 innings, the second-highest total in what had been an injury-plagued career.

"He was in demand," Twins general manager Bill Smith said. "I know he had a lot of

teams that called him. The best thing we both had going for us is he kept saying that he wanted to come back to the Twins and we kept saying that he was the one guy we really wanted to get."

Pavano came to Minnesota in a 2009 trade with Cleveland and has been reinvigorated after four tough seasons with the Yankees. Injuries caused him to miss the entire 2006 season and much of three others, and he made only 26 starts for New York.

He was lampooned in the city tabloids as being fragile and couldn't wait to leave after 2008. Despite all the acrimony, Pavano said he has always kept in contact with Yankees GM Brian Cashman and still holds him in high regard.

"It shows a lot that he was going to stick his neck out there for me if something was going to work out," Pavano said of the possibility of returning.

He'll once again join a Twins rotation that includes Francisco Liriano and Scott Baker, with Brian Duensing, Nick Blackburn and Kevin Slowey likely competing for the final two spots. On a team with so many young starters, getting the veteran Pavano

back was essential.

"Carl Pavano has been a leader on that staff since we acquired him in August of 2009," Smith said. "We can't say enough good things about what he has brought to us."

The Yankees swept the Twins out of the first round of the playoffs in 2010, but Pavano ultimately decided on coming back to Target Field for another run. Veteran slugger Jim Thome was one of the biggest advocates for the Twins after he re-signed, bombarding Pavano with text messages beckoning him back to Minnesota.

"He said, 'Listen, I did my job, now it's time to do yours. Let's get it going. We belong in a Twins uniform. That's where we need to be,'" Pavano said.

Once he had all the offers on the table, the decision was easy.

"It's easier to make the decision when it's all in front of you because you really start to find out where your heart is," Pavano said. "When the offer is there and the chance to do it is there, the whole emotion about it is very real. I couldn't put aside the emotions and the feelings and the energy I had for this team. I just couldn't put it aside."

"I'm where I need to be."



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SPORTS BRIEFS

2011 SML season starts Feb. 2

The 2011 Saipan Major League baseball season is expected to kick off on Feb. 2 at the Francisco “Tan Ko” Palacios Ballfield. Last year the Fielders defeated the Falcons in the SML semifinals and went on to down

the Brewer, 3-2, to win the 2010 SML championship. The Fielders fell in a hole early in the series and lost the first two games, but rallied back to take the last three games for the 2010 title. For more information, call SML coordinator Tony Rogolifoi at 288-3515. *(Walter Sutherland)*

First SGA tourney of 2011 this Sunday

Saipan Golf Association will hold its January Ace of the Month Golf Tournament this Sunday, Jan. 23, at Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort. Tee time is at 10:30am with show time half an hour earlier at

10am. Election of SGA officers is scheduled afterwards at president Ben Aldan’s ranch in As Gonno, Koblerville. New and returning members are encouraged to participate and complete the annual membership form prior to the tournament. *(SGA)*

KAITO

From Page 36

best time. The Tsunami Saipan swimmer also joined the 50m breast-stroke event last year and advanced to the finals, Yanai timed in at 39.67 seconds in the preliminary race for the eighth best time among 87 swimmers. He missed the medal podium by only one step, as he placed

fourth in the finals with a faster time of 38.78 seconds. Besides Yanai, five other Tsunami Saipan swimmers will compete in the Tokyo Sprint, which will run on March 19 and 20. The list include Kensuke Kimura, Lukas Kang, and Ryuto Yanai. Only one slot is left on the team and Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura is still evaluating times of his other swimmers to determine the owner of the last

AYUYUS

From Page 36

offensively, the Ayuyus had too many players to go to for points. Juan Maratita posted up against a much smaller defender and then either pulled up for short jumpers or drove strong to the hoop. Then in the shaded area, once Savali Talalemoto got the ball, it was almost sure two-points. Sahj Hossain and Ichitaro Faisao also gave Kagman options on offense, combining for 26 markers. Maratita had 23, while Talalemoto tallied 19. Brandon Aulerio was the lone double-figure scorer for

MHS with 22. The Dolphins tried to play tough defense against Kagman to stay in the game. However, Kagman players knew each other so well they always found an open man to break the trap and escape with an uncontested basket. Majority of Kagman players have been competing together in various youth leagues in the CNMI and their chemistry is evident in the Ayuyus’ games in the MISO league. In the junior varsity game, MHS improved to a 2-0 card after beating Kagman, 29-19. John Cenir top-scored for the Dolphins with 17 points. Cenir had two triples, can-

ticket to the Tokyo trip. The older Kimura said they must set higher qualifying times for Tsunami Saipan swimmers aiming to compete in Tokyo, as he wants everyone to make it to the finals. Meanwhile, Kensuke Kimura will be on his third stint in the Tokyo sprint. He was on Tsunami Saipan’s team last year, joining Angel Marie Tan, Angel De Jesus, and Ryosei Toda. In 2009, the younger

Kimura was with Kai Staal. Last year’s Kensuke Kimura, nearly marched into the finals of the 100m IM. He timed in at 1:07.81 for ninth place out of 51 participants. Only the Top 8 advanced to the finals and Kimura’s time was 0.43 of a second behind the eighth finisher. Ryuto Yanai and Kang will debut in the Tokyo sprint with the latter making it to the team after breaking a couple of records in the U8 age group last year.

BUCHER

From Page 36

ing parties. I’m always very happy when I am on Saipan and see my friends,” the 32-year-old triathlete said. The XTERRA Saipan Championship will be Bucher’s second race in March, as she is also set to compete in

the inaugural XTERRA Philippines. The Philippine leg of XTERRA World Tour will be held on March 6 in Cebu. Joining Bucher in the southern part of the Philippines is XTERRA Saipan men’s back-to-back champion Sam Gardner of United Kingdom. Bucher said after XTERRA, she will stay on Saipan for another week for the 2011

Tagaman Triathlon where she will be defending her PIC Double title. Bucher timed at 2:58:19 in the 1.5-kilometer swim, 30-km mountain bike race, and 12-km trail run of XTERRA Saipan to beat American pro Shonny Vanlandingham (3:07:04) and Carey (3:11:07). In Tagaman, Bucher submitted 3:24:36 to finish third behind

First Game

MHS 29 – Cenir 17, Dela Rosa 6, Mancao 2, Suarez 2, Capuyon 2. KHS 19 – Lampkin 10, Palacios 3, B. Santos 2, A. Santos 2, Jeben 2. Scoring by quarters: 2-2, 11-8, 19-10, 29-19.

Second Game

KHS 93 – Maratita 23, Talalemotu 19, Hossain 15, Faisao 11, Mettao 6, Palacios 4, Sablan 4, Reyes 3, Babauta 2, Ogo 1. MHS 76 – Aulerio 22, Darag 9, Caro 9, Lacsina 8, Manalili 7, Sarmiento 6, Ichihara 5, Duatin 3. Scoring by quarters: 15-13, 45-32, 70-52, 93-76.

Korean national triathlon team member Dan Bi Hong (3:20:47) and Vanlandingham (3:23:53). The Swiss’ journey will not stop after the Tagaman, as from Saipan she will go to South Africa for a mountain bike competition. She will be in South Africa for more than eight days to race in a grueling 80-km event.

SATBAHI

From Page 36

team collapsed in the fourth quarter. Prospects had their biggest lead at the break, 44-31, and kept its double-digit margin in the third quarter, 59-49, before losing steam in the final canto. Satbahi outgunned Prospects in the fourth period, 23-8, with the former making only a field goal in the first seven minutes of that canto. A jumper from Glenn Aquino gave Satbahi its first taste of the lead since the first quarter, 63-62, and stretched it to six, 69-63, after Bart Demapan canned back-to-back baskets and Wowie Abuel scooted in for a layup, with 1:23 to go in the game. Darwin Barbo made a split and Keon Chariton hit a triple to move Prospects within two, 67-69, with less than a minute

left in the match. Barbo had two chances to either tie the game or grab the lead, but muffed both opportunities when he missed two free throws and kicked the ball out to the baseline in an in-bound play. With 15 seconds left on the clock, Prospects gave up a preemptive foul and Abuel made the first charity for a 70-67 lead. Abuel missed the second and Errol Peredo claimed the rebound. Peredo, who missed several shots in the fourth quarter, tried to redeem himself in the homestretch, sprinting for a fastbreak play. However, he was too fast for his own good and lost the leather. Aquino picked up the loose ball and took time off the clock before making a basket to peg the final score and give Satbahi a winning debut. Abuel paced Satbahi with 24 points, while Marlon Sison and Rolly Paraiso added 14

and 13, respectively. In the second game, Dave Sablan toyed around the defense of IT&E Fundamentalists, scoring 34 big points to lift the Hoopholics to a 2-0 record. IT&E dropped to a 0-2 start. Sablan matched the entire output of IT&E in the first period, which ended with the Hoopholics ahead, 12-4. IT&E, which played with only six players, did not get its first basket until the seventh minute of the opening period. Blair Fox picked up the scoring for IT&E, knocking in 10 points, but Sablan matched it, as the Hoopholics kept the driver’s seat at the break, 27-23, despite being outscored in the second period, 18-15. Sablan continued to show his offensive firepower in the second half, firing 22 points to deny IT&E its first win in the nine-team league. Helping Sablan power the

Hoopholics to their second win in a row were big men Jawn Joyner and Kelvin Fitial. Joyner tallied 13 points, while Fitial contributed 10.

First Game

Satbahi 72 – Abuel 24, Sison 14, Paraiso 13, Demapan 7, Aquino 6, Concepcion 4, Palacios 2, Sablan 1, Mortos 1. Prospects 67 – Barbo 16, Peredo 12, Chariton 8, Lauron 6, Inos 6, White 6, E. Aughenbaugh 6, Apelo 5, D. Aughenbaugh 2. Scoring by quarters: 10-25, 31-44, 49-59, 72-67.

Second Game

Hoopholics 65 – D. Sablan 34, Joyner 13, Fitial 10, Manibusan 4, Rasa 2, Mendez 2. IT&E 54 – Fox 19, Petersburg 10, Cooke 9, Jeon 6, Walsh 6, Lee 5. Scoring by quarters: 12-4, 27-23, 45-36, 65-54.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	32	9	.780	—
New York	22	19	.537	10
Philadelphia	17	24	.415	15
Toronto	13	29	.310	19 1/2
New Jersey	11	31	.262	21 1/2

Southeast Division

Miami	30	13	.698	—
Atlanta	28	15	.651	2
Orlando	27	15	.643	2 1/2
Charlotte	16	24	.400	12 1/2
Washington	12	28	.300	16 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	28	14	.667	—
Indiana	16	23	.410	10 1/2
Milwaukee	15	24	.385	11 1/2
Detroit	15	27	.357	13
Cleveland	8	33	.195	19 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	36	6	.857	—
Dallas	27	14	.659	8 1/2
New Orleans	27	16	.628	9 1/2
Houston	20	23	.465	16 1/2
Memphis	19	23	.452	17

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	27	15	.643	—
Utah	27	15	.643	—
Denver	24	17	.585	2 1/2
Portland	23	20	.535	4 1/2
Minnesota	10	33	.233	17 1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	31	13	.705	—
Phoenix	19	21	.475	10
Golden State	18	23	.439	11 1/2
L.A. Clippers	16	25	.390	13 1/2
Sacramento	9	31	.225	20

Yesterday's Games

Phoenix 106, Cleveland 98

New Jersey 103, Utah 95

Orlando 99, Philadelphia 98, OT

Boston 86, Detroit 82

Milwaukee 100, Washington 87

New Orleans 103, Memphis 102, OT

Houston 104, New York 89

San Antonio 104, Toronto 95

Denver 112, Oklahoma City 107

Dallas 109, L.A. Lakers 100

Portland 94, Sacramento 90, OT

Golden State 110, Indiana 108

L.A. Clippers 126, Minnesota 111

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	37	349	288	1050	28.4
Stoudemire, NYK	40	391	266	1056	26.4
Ellis, GOL	40	383	192	1027	25.7
James, MIA	41	358	276	1049	25.6
Bryant, LAL	43	378	270	1084	25.2
Wade, MIA	41	357	279	1030	25.1
Rose, CHI	41	373	199	1011	24.7
Gordon, LAC	38	306	226	907	23.9
Nowitzki, DAL	31	272	163	739	23.8
Martin, HOU	40	271	304	931	23.3
Anthony, DEN	33	267	211	763	23.1
Griffin, LAC	40	346	205	901	22.5
Westbrook, OKC	41	313	281	918	22.4
Williams, UTA	41	288	256	908	22.1
Howard, ORL	39	298	262	858	22.0
Bargnani, TOR	35	290	137	760	21.7
Love, MIN	42	300	233	892	21.2
Granger, IND	37	272	160	784	21.2
Aldridge, POR	42	351	181	886	21.1
Gay, MEM	39	308	143	807	20.7

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Hilario, DEN	196	307	.638
Okafor, NOR	187	314	.596
Johnson, TOR	153	265	.577
Odum, LAL	266	468	.568
Ibaka, OKC	166	293	.567
Howard, ORL	298	526	.567
Horford, ATL	303	535	.566
Boozler, CHI	207	370	.559
Nowitzki, DAL	272	501	.543
Millsap, UTA	279	516	.541

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Love, MIN	42	204	455	659	15.7
Howard, ORL	39	145	373	518	13.3
Randolph, MEM	37	172	312	484	13.1
Griffin, LAC	40	152	359	511	12.8
Camby, POR	39	130	310	440	11.3
Gasol, LAL	43	151	309	460	10.7
Okafor, NOR	42	131	303	434	10.3
Horford, ATL	43	108	309	417	9.7
Odum, LAL	43	99	311	410	9.5
Duncan, SAN	41	109	280	389	9.5

Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Rondo, BOS	29	388	13.4
Nash, PHX	37	400	10.8
Paul, NOR	42	405	9.6
Williams, UTA	41	387	9.4
Wall, WAS	27	246	9.1
Felton, NYK	40	357	8.9
Kidd, DAL	40	339	8.5
Calderon, TOR	35	295	8.4
Westbrook, OKC	41	343	8.4
Rose, CHI	41	328	8.0

BOB HOPE CLASSIC SCORES

LA QUINTA, California (AP) — Results

Wednesday from the \$5 million Hope Classic, played at the Arnold Palmer Private Course (p), Jack Nicklaus Private Course (n), La

FIRST ROUND

Derek Lamely	29-34—63p
J.J. Henry	32-32—64n
Jhonattan Vegas	31-33—64p
Boo Weekley	32-33—65p
Fredrik Jacobson	33-32—65n
Gary Woodland	34-31—65s
Ricky Barnes	32-33—65s
Matt McQuillan	30-35—65p
Kyle Stanley	33-32—65l
John Senden	33-33—66s
Keegan Bradley	34-32—66n
Shaun Micheel	31-35—66s
Peter Tomasulo	31-35—66s
Chad Collins	34-32—66p
Bubba Watson	32-34—66s
Kris Blanks	31-35—66l
Ryuji Imada	34-32—66p
Charles Howell III	34-32—66n
Matt Kuchar	32-34—66s
D.A. Points	32-35—67n
Kenny Perry	34-33—67p
Jerry Kelly	33-34—67l
Brendan Steele	33-34—67l
Brian Davis	33-34—67p
Greg Chalmers	34-33—67n
Joe Ogilvie	32-35—67s
Ryan Palmer	33-34—67l
Hunter Haas	34-33—67n
Matt Jones	33-34—67p
Tim Petrovic	35-32—67p
Jeff Maggert	33-34—67l
Cameron Tringale	32-35—67p
Fabian Gomez	33-34—67l
Chris Couch	34-33—67l
Jason Dufner	36-32—68s
Steve Marino	34-34—68l
Brendon de Jonge	34-34—68s
Kevin Sutherland	34-34—68n
Charley Hoffman	35-33—68s
Webb Simpson	33-35—68s
Steve Flesch	34-34—68p
Brandt Jobe	34-34—68s
Steve Elkington	34-34—68p
Nathan Green	35-33—68n
Martin Laird	36-32—68l
Kevin Chappell	35-33—68s
Nick O'Hern	35-33—68p
Lee Janzen	37-31—68n
Bryce Molder	35-33—68l
Harrison Frazar	33-35—68s
David Duval	34-34—68s
Paul Goydos	34-34—68l
Michael Bradley	34-34—68p
Alex Cejka	34-35—69p
Paul Stankowski	33-36—69s
Mark Brooks	34-35—69n
Dean Wilson	33-36—69l
Chad Campbell	32-37—69n
Brian Gay	35-34—69l
Pat Perez	33-36—69s
Chris Baryl	33-36—69p
Jeff Overton	36-33—69n
Stephen Ames	34-35—69p
Mark Calacavcchia	33-36—69s
Ben Martin	35-34—69p
Jeff Klauk	35-34—69p
Chris Kirk	35-34—69l
Kevin Na	37-32—69l
Chris DiMarco	34-35—69n
Bobby Gates	35-34—69n
Mark Wilson	35-34—69l
Bill Haas	35-34—69s
Daniel Summerhays	34-35—69s
Kevin Streelman	33-36—69n
Spencer Levin	33-36—69n
Bo Van Pelt	36-33—69s
Justin Leonard	35-34—69s
Heath Slocum	35-34—69n
Matt Bettencourt	34-35—69s
Michael Putnam	39-30—69n
Billy Mayfair	34-36—70l
Roland Thatcher	36-34—70l
Scott McCarron	34-36—70s
William McGirt	33-37—70n
Colt Knost	36-34—70s
Garrett Willis	35-35—70p
Chris Stroud	34-36—70l
Brandt Snedeker	34-36—70p
Rory Sabbatini	37-33—70n
Jason Gore	35-35—70n
Blake Adams	36-34—70l
Marc Turnesa	33-37—70l
Joe Durant	36-34—70s
David Mathis	36-34—70p
Jarrold Lyle	33-37—70n
Tommy Gainey	34-36—70n
David Toms	36-34—70l
J.P. Hayes	36-35—71n
Bio Kim	36-35—71p
D.J. Trahan	35-36—71l
Scott Verplank	37-34—71n
Vaughn Taylor	35-36—71n
Martin Piller	35-36—71l
Rod Pampling	35-36—71p
Scott Stallings	36-35—71n
Kevin Stadler	35-37—72s
Troy Matteson	37-35—72p
Nate Smith	34-38—72p
Mike Weir	34-38—72p
Rich Beem	36-36—72n
Josh Teater	35-37—72p
Stewart Cink	38-34—72n
Kevin Kisner	35-37—72l
Jamie Lovemark	37-35—72s
Alex Prugh	36-37—73p
Chez Reavie	35-38—73l
Chris Starkjohann	38-35—73n
Tag Ridings	36-37—73l
Jesper Parnevik	38-35—73l
Sam Saunders	35-38—73s
Zack Miller	38-36—74l
John Rollins	37-37—74l
Bill Lunde	33-41—74p
Ryan Moore	39-35—74l
Steve Jones	36-38—74n
Cameron Beckman	38-36—74p
Billy Horschel	37-40—77s
Brad Faxon	41-36—77s

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2010 Fil-Taga Golfer of the Year Tournament

PHOTOS by ROSELYN B. MONROYO



October Ace Rene Batallones, left, poses with fellow participants in the first round of the 2010 Fil-Taga Golfer of the Year Tournament in hole No. 17 of the Coral Ocean Point course last Saturday.



March Ace Jaysen Gatdula, right, poses with his flight mates at the tee box of No. 15.



2010 Fil-Taga Golfer of the Year Tournament winner Adony Matutino, right, joins his flight mates for a group photo in hole No. 16.



Manny Po picks up the flag after completing hole No. 14.



Larry Pascual eyes the hole before chipping on the greens of hole No. 15.



September Ace Richard Meimban prepares to tee off in hole No. 15.



Rene Batallones watches the ball roll to the hole for a par.



Jaysen Gatdula watches his ball after teeing off.



Adony Matutino hits one of his pars in the first round of the tournament.

**Nets owner
tells team to
drop Anthony
deal**

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Saipan Tribune Sports



**Nadal breezes
into 3rd round
at Aussie Open**

PAGE 32

36 FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Ayuyus hand Dolphins first loss

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kagman High School ended Marianas High School's winning run in the varsity division of the 2010-2011 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Boys Basketball League last Wednesday at the MHS Gymnasium.

Kagman High School's Juan Maratita, left, blocks Marianas High School's Ryan Ichihara during the third quarter of their varsity division game in the MISO caging last Wednesday at the MHS Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



The Ayuyus routed the Dolphins, 93-76, to hand MHS its first loss in four games. With its 17-point win, Kagman (3-0) remained the lone unbeaten team in the varsity division.

The two favored teams in this season's competition were in a close fight from the start until midway in the second quarter when the Ayuyus pulled away.

A triple from John Darag moved MHS within one, 27-28, with less than five minutes left in the second canto. However, Kagman had a 17-5 windup to close the first half with a 45-32 lead.

The defending champions held the Dolphins to two field goals in the last four minutes of the second period to gain control of the game and never looked back.

While the Dolphins struggled

See AYUYUS on Page 34

Satbahi, Hoopaholics triumph

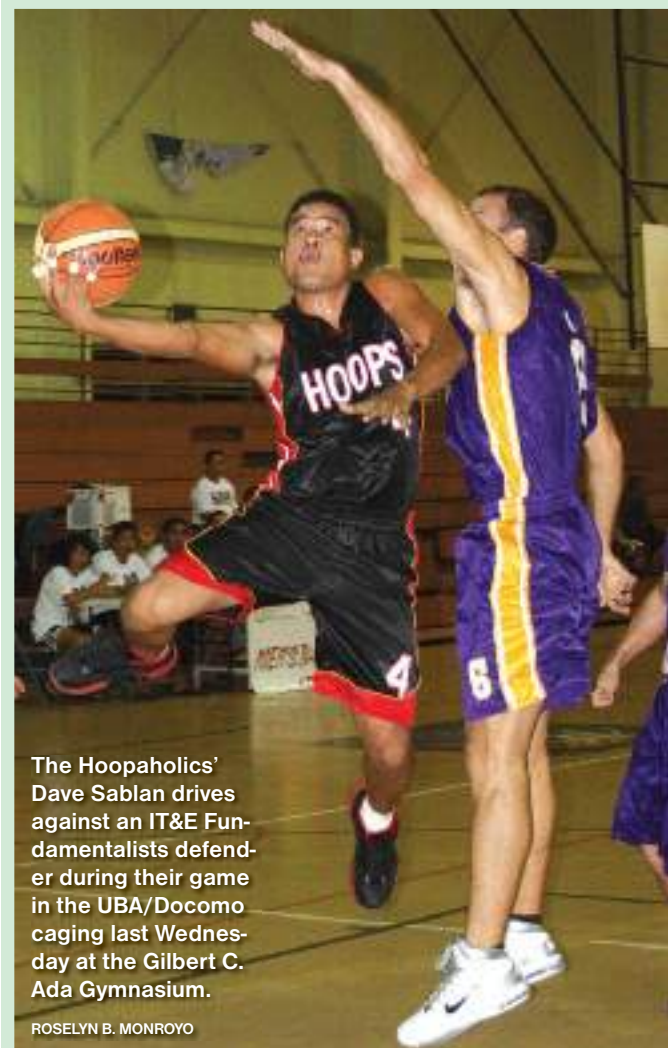
By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Satbahi eked out a come-from-behind win, while the Hoopaholics cruised to its second straight victory, outclassed IT&E as action in the 2nd UBA Men's League continued Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Satbahi worked its way back from a 13-point halftime deficit and edged defending champion Prospects in the first game, 72-67. In the second match, the Hoopaholics outclassed IT&E Fundamentalists, 65-54.

The loss was Prospects' second in as many games, as the

See SATBAHI on Page 34



The Hoopaholics' Dave Sablan drives against an IT&E Fundamentalists defender during their game in the UBA/Docomo caging last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Bucher raring to compete in XTERRA Saipan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Switzerland's Renata Bucher always looks forward to the XTERRA Saipan Championship no matter how many times she had been here.

"I am coming back and excited to compete again and see friends. It is so cold here in Switzerland, but I am still motivated to train, knowing that in a few months, I will be on Saipan," Bucher said.

"We are having a lot of snow. When I'm running in the snow, I'm often thinking, I'm running at the end of the XTERRA on Saipan in the



Switzerland's Renata Bucher pedals up to Mt. Tapochao during the 2010 XTERRA Saipan Championships.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

sand, along the beach," the Luzern native added.

Bucher is one of the about 50 off-island triathletes who will compete in XTERRA World Tour's Crown Jewel that will take place on March 12. She will be aiming for her seventh straight title.

The Swiss said when thinking of Saipan, she is not only considering the competition here, but also the people she became friends with.

"It's not only my mind that is on Saipan. A big part of my heart is also there, so it is not all about the race. I wanted to see Miek Carey, who is not only one of my tough competitors on Saipan, but also a good friend. We both love racing and attend-

See BUCHER on Page 34

Kaito returns to Tokyo Junior Sprints

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Kaito Yanai will be leading Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan's team to the 2011 Tokyo Junior Sprint Championships at the Tatsumi International Swimming Stadium in March.

It will be Yanai's second time to compete in the Tokyo tournament after debuting in the annual event last year. In his first trip to Tokyo, the 10-year-old Yanai won a gold medal in the 100m individual medley. He completed the 100m IM race in one minute, 15.56 seconds, prevailing against seven other



Yanai

finalists. Yanai's time in the finals was more than two seconds faster than his qualifying time of 1:18.12. In the qualifying race that drew 72 swimmers, Yanai recorded the fifth

See KAITO on Page 34